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SOVIET MEDIA REACTION TO ROSTOW RESIGNATION

Reason for Resignation Analyzed

LD131540 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Our observer Igor Dmitriyev takes a look at the resignation of Eugene Rostow from the post of director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. This is what he writes.

According to reports from Washington the dismissal of Eugene Rostow by President Reagan was not based on ideological or policy reasons. Writing in THE NEW YORK TIMES, Bernard Gwertzman said the change was intended to end the fragmentation and chaos that has existed for months in the arms control bureaucracy. Commenting on Mr Rostow's resignation, some Western observers have quoted him as saying that he was trying to steer a course between those who might want an agreement with the Soviet Union at any cost and those who wanted none at all. Others go as far as to claim that Eugene Rostow was not as hawkish as rightwingers in the Congress wanted him to be.

Much of what is being said about Mr Rostow and his resignation is pure guesswork. Nothing in his records indicates that he was ever liberal or soft toward the Soviet Union. In addition to being a loyal servant of the Reagan administration, Mr Rostow was one of the founders of the notorious Committee on the Present Danger. Set up in the midseventies, the committee sought to derail the Soviet-American SALT talks. Committee members became especially active after the Salt II treaty was signed in June 1979; they launched a vicious campaign to dissuade senators from ratifying the treaty. This being the case, Mr Rostow's resignation can hardly be regarded as a sign that there exists a major rift within the administration and in Congress in foreign policy and Soviet-American relations in particular. Those who champion a balanced approach to arms control are in the minority.

Despite President Reagan's claims that his highest priority is the reduction of the risk and the means of a conflict, Washington's position remains what it was; namely, the American Administration sticks to its arms reduction proposals, which amount to a unilateral Soviet disarmament. Although administration officials have said they would seriously study the recent Soviet proposals made by General Secretary Yuriy Andropov, they still insist on what is unacceptable to the Soviet Union.

Thus the White House spokesman, Larry Speakes, has said that the administration stuck by its principal offer of the so-called zero option. This plan would lead to the destruction of all Soviet medium-range missiles, while the United States would retain all of its forward-based weapons systems in Europe, and Britain and France would preserve their own nuclear missiles aimed at the Soviet Union.

Publicity surrounding the resignation of Eugene Rostow, together with Western statements about the need to seriously study the recent Soviet peace offer, are meant to cushion the positive effects of the sincere and honest Soviet proposals and win time for the West to regroup. Some observers believe that the fragmentation and chaos in the American arms control bureaucracy, mentioned by THE NEW YORK TIMES, are to a certain degree the results of the impact of the new Soviet peace initiatives on the public opinion in the West.

Replacement Shares Reagan's Skepticism

LD131412 Moscow TASS in English 1330 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Washington January 13 TASS -- It has been officially announced here that Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency Eugene Rostow has sent in his resignation, which was accepted by President Reagan.

His post will be taken by Kenneth Adelman, now deputy U.S. ambassador at the United Nations. Commenting on the appointment, the newspaper NEW YORK TIMES stresses that Kenneth Adelman is not known as an expert in arms control, but he largely shares the Reagan administration's skeptical attitude to the Soviet Union.

Speculation on 'Further Changes'

LD132003 Moscow TASS in English 1707 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Washington January 13 TASS -- The resignation of Eugene Rostow from the post of director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency has been officially announced in Washington. Eugene Rostow, a "hawk" and one of the founders of the notorious Committee on the Present Danger, became of late a subject for strong criticism on the part of the ultra-right for his stance, allegedly opposed to President Reagan's policy.

Commenting on Rostow's resignation, the American mass media point out that it can be viewed abroad as another evidence of utter confusion in the Reagan administration's approach to the question of restricting the arms race.

Further changes both in the White House staff and U.S. Government bodies are expected by Washington political circles. It is reported, in particular, that under consideration at the White House at present is the question of transferring William Clark, a close friend of President Reagan, from the post of the presidential national security adviser to the post of chief of staff of the White House. One of the reasons for the reshuffle is that Howard Baker [as received], the present chief of staff of the White House, who is reported to be close to Vice President George Bush, has rather tense relations with the "California entourage" of President Reagan.

According to available information, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, after unfavourable for the administration voting in the House of Representatives on the question of appropriations for the MX missile, also offered his resignation which was not, however, accepted by Ronald Reagan. U.S. Under-Secretary of Defence Fred Ikle is expected to resign since the White House is inclined to place on him responsibility for the emergence of differences between the administration and Congress on the issue of MX missile deployment.

American political observers link all the reshuffles, already held and planned in the future, with the mounting difficulties facing the Reagan administration and with the major failures both in the external and domestic policy.

NATO COUNCIL REACTION TO PACT PROPOSALS NOTED

LD132214 Moscow TASS in English 2118 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Brussels January 13 TASS -- A meeting of the NATO Council at the level of permanent representatives has taken place here to discuss, in particular, the new peace initiatives made by the socialist countries at the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states in Prague. Upon the completion of the NATO Council's meeting a NATO spokesman made a statement which actually evaded giving an appraisal of these important proposals. He only said that the capitals of individual members of the Atlantic alliance had made statements on the proposals of the Warsaw Treaty countries. In view, apparently, of the great interest evoked by the peace initiatives of socialist countries all over the world he hastened to add that the allies, of course, were examining closely in NATO the proposal to the Warsaw Treaty countries.

The NATO spokesman claimed that the NATO member countries had earlier tabled at different international organisations initiatives aimed at arms control and cooperation. At the same time, observers point out, the final communiques of the latest sessions of the NATO Council did not contain practical initiatives on detente and disarmament. Moreover, these documents gave no response to the numerous peace proposals of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. The position of the NATO members at different international forums on disarmament was non-constructive.

"NATO seems increasingly confused in the face of the peace offensive launched by the Soviet diplomacy," the French newspaper LE MATIN writes. "This is illustrated by the hasty publication by the NATO Council of a statement voicing its intention to 'closely study' the latest proposals of the Warsaw Treaty countries." "Having first demonstrated indifference for peace proposals, NATO now is afraid of looking insufficiently concerned over the problems of safeguarding peace," the newspaper stressed.

NEWSPAPERS DISCUSS SOVIET PEACE INITIATIVES

'Constructive' Response Urged

PM131515 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 5 Jan 83 p 3

[Article by SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRYA international observer G. Dadyants: "On the Real and the Alleged 'Zero Option'"]

[Text] The Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe -- or, as these arms are commonly called, "Euromissiles" -- were adjourned before Christmas and are due to resume at the end of January. Both those taking part in the talks and those following their progress particularly closely -- the countries of West Europe -- have had time to think.

No constructive decisions have been reached at the talks to date, because of the stance adopted by the United States.

It must be said that for many years now parity, or an approximate balance of forces, has existed in the sphere of medium-range weapons in Europe. Each side has approximately 1,000 vehicles for such weapons deployed. However, by counting nuclear warheads capable of being launched against a target simultaneously -- and this is a very important indicator -- the NATO countries already have a 50 percent advantage over the Warsaw Pact countries.

Nevertheless, a shrill propaganda campaign has been mounted in Washington and a number of West European capitals over "the balance of forces upset by the Soviet Union" as a result of the deployment of new SS-20 missiles capable of hitting targets in West Europe. This is a deliberate lie designed to mislead the West European public.

True, the United States does not have missiles comparable to the SS-20 in Europe at the present time, but this certainly does not mean that the SS-20's have upset the "balance" of forces between the USSR and NATO. In point of fact, the SS-20's are countering arms of exactly the same type which already exist in Europe. The U.S. nuclear weapon-carrying aircraft based in a number of West European countries and the nuclear weapon-carrying aircraft aboard U.S. aircraft carriers cruising off the European coast. [paragraph as published]

Putting forward their notorious "zero option" in Geneva, which envisages dismantling Soviet medium-range land-based missiles in exchange for a U.S. promise not to site new Pershing II and cruise missiles on the territory of European countries, the Americans appear to have "forgotten" about their forward-based devices aimed at targets in the USSR and other socialist countries. They have also "forgotten" about the medium-range nuclear weapons possessed by their NATO partners -- Britain and France.

But can all these devices be ignored when determining the composition of medium-range forces? After all, these are not tactical nuclear weapons, as the United States would have us believe. These devices have a range of 1,000-4,500 km and are quite capable of delivering nuclear strikes against targets on USSR territory right up to the Urals.

How, for example, should we regard France's nuclear potential? At one time French statesmen adhered to the principle of "defense on all fronts" but now they are increasingly talking about "forward battle" [bitva na peredovykh rubezhakh]. The French missiles equipped on submarines are, moreover, designed not for "all fronts" but rather to hit the targets of "a potential enemy," by which Paris means the Soviet Union.

Reluctantly, one has to doubt the sincerity and seriousness of U.S. intentions to reach mutually acceptable accords at the Geneva talks. It seems that, hiding behind a "zero option" which it knows to be unacceptable to the USSR, the United States is seeking to ensure the full-scale deployment of its new missiles in Europe and that the Geneva talks are merely a blind to cover up its militarist plans.

The United States maintains that its new missiles are intended to defend West Europe against Soviet missiles. But this is pulling the wool over the Europeans' eyes. If U.S. missiles were deployed West European security would be weakened, not strengthened, since the nuclear threat to countries in which the U.S. weapons are sited will increase. The U.S. missiles, which have a range of 2,500 km, are not defensive. They are first-strike weapons specially designed for waging a nuclear war in Europe. A Pentagon document entitled "Directives on the Organization of the U.S. Armed Forces" boldly states that these missiles are to be targeted against state and military administrative organs in the USSR, as well as against Soviet ICBM's and other strategic targets. The flight time of a Pershing II missile is around 6 minutes, so, the aggressor calculates, it will be difficult to take countermeasures in that time. So what we are talking about is not defense but attack, not a simple arithmetical addition of 600 missiles to the U.S. strategic potential but a qualitative change in the strategic situation in favor of the United States. In other words, it wants in effect to turn medium-range missiles into strategic missiles.

Did the United States not propose its "zero option" in Geneva in order to sabotage the talks and then, pointing to their failure, foist on West European countries the missiles, the testing of which is currently in full swing?

To accept the "zero option" would in these circumstances mean Soviet disarmament in the face of the United States and its NATO allies.

No, if a "zero option" is to be sought it must be of a different order -- one which would not violate the principle of equality and equal security or ignore the existing balance of forces, regional and global.

In his report at the Kremlin ceremony marking the USSR's 60th anniversary Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, set out with the utmost clarity the Soviet proposals countering the U.S. "zero option." Later, replying to questions from U.S. political commentator J. Kingsbury-Smith, he repeated: "Regarding nuclear weapons in the European zone, we propose a range of options. Either not to have any there at all -- whether medium-range or tactical, on the side of the USSR or that of NATO. This would, so to speak, be "absolute zero" for both sides. Alternatively, let both sides reduce their medium-range arms (missiles and aircraft carrying nuclear weapons) by more than two-thirds. In so doing there would be no Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles countering each other there at all and the USSR would only retain exactly the same number of missiles as Britain and France. Regarding aircraft, we are in favor of complete equality at a substantially lower level than at present. In short, we do not want to have a single missile or airplane in the European zone more than the NATO countries."

How have the Western powers reacted to the Soviet Union's latest peace initiative, which makes it possible to break the deadlock in the Geneva "Euromissiles" talks?

While many prominent U.S. and West European politicians and public figures have seen the latest Soviet proposals as a real opportunity to move, at last, from words to deeds and to limit, if not completely dismantle, the medium-range nuclear arsenals in Europe, a number of leaders in the NATO countries are thinking only of how to brush them aside. British Prime Minister M. Thatcher rejected the Soviet proposals, admitting that she had not even read them. This can hardly be called a serious approach to a question on which depends whether there will be war or peace in Europe.

The Soviet proposals on medium-range missiles in Europe are the most radical of the possible options and must be studied seriously. The response they elicit will be the touchstone of the entire U.S. and NATO approach to the problem of nuclear arms in Europe. It boils down to this: Either an accord on reducing or abolishing "Euromissiles" is reached or we face years of dangerous nuclear confrontation and a further heightening of tension, which poses the threat of a nuclear conflict.

The United States must respond to the real "zero option" proposed by the Soviet Union not with hasty polemical statements but with constructive steps, and it must not cling to impracticable and one-sided solutions put forward purely for propaganda purposes.

Western 'Assertions' Not Realistic

LD141010 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1150 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, 13 Jan (TASS) -- The new Soviet peace initiatives for limiting and reducing nuclear armaments in Europe do not at all pursue the aim of "decoupling" Western Europe from American nuclear guarantees, as leaders of the European NATO countries try to prove, the Soviet weekly MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI (16 January edition) stresses. It points out that the Soviet Union "is striving only to reduce as much as possible the level of the dangerous nuclear confrontation on the continent while maintaining equality and equal security."

Commenting on the assertions by some Western politicians that the British and French allegedly cannot, they say, give nuclear guarantees to the FRG because their medium-range means are "weapons of national defense" that will only be used in the event of an attack on these countries, the newspaper writes that these assertions "are not in accord with reality."

"The British nuclear forces," the newspaper continues, "are directly subordinate to NATO, and Paris quite recently proposed to Bonn a coordination of nuclear strategy and intends to deploy its nuclear weapons on FRG territory." Consequently, "trying to prove that the British and French medium-range means cannot be used within the NATO framework is simply not serious."

Concerning "the danger of decoupling" the FRG and the whole of Western Europe from the U.S. strategic forces," which is being talked about in the West, the weekly notes that the Soviet side "takes into account that the European NATO countries consider the U.S. nuclear presence to be an essential element in their security and the Soviet side agrees to equal levels of missiles and medium-range aircraft. "A certain number of U.S. forward-based aviation systems" still remains in "the European sphere of NATO."

"In combination with the proposal by the Warsaw Treaty member-states to conclude a pact with the countries of NATO on reciprocal nonuse of military force, the Soviet proposals on medium-range means put forward on 21 December 1982 provide optimal security for Western Europe," the newspaper sums up.

U.S. 'Reluctance' Criticized

PM121513 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Jan 83 p 9

[Vitaliy Kobysh article under the rubric "Observer's Opinion": "'Survive Together or Die Together'"]

[Text] January of the New Year, 1983, is already upon us. Thinking about the future, we Soviet people have always had in mind the well-being not only of our own country, but of other peoples and the planet as a whole -- that is our unchanging world outlook. But most Americans, for instance, have until very recently thought differently. For them the interests of their own family, its material security and its prosperity have always been the center of everything, the basis of the universe.

A striking phenomenon in our time is that now not only West Europeans and Japanese but the vast majority of Americans have expanded their idea of their own and their family's well-being to such an extent that they associate it directly with the world situation. This is not because the education system has changed in American schools and the universities are teaching courses in international relations. It is because, albeit rather late, U.S. inhabitants have realized with horrifying clarity that in the age of nuclear missiles all mankind is in the same boat -- not the most reliable boat -- on the crest of the biggest, most dangerous wave. "Survive Together or Die Together," say the placards now being carried by demonstrators not only in Bonn, Tokyo, London and The Hague, but also in New York, Washington, Chicago and Los Angeles.

This has an alarming, but quite realistic ring. On 22 November last year R. Reagan admitted, for instance, that he receives many letters from American children. The children tell how they often wake up at night and, thinking about the possibility of nuclear war, weep in fear. The U.S. President naturally promised to do all in his power to make sure that the children do not wake at night and weep. What has he actually done?

In the 6 weeks since making those remarks the U.S. President and his administration have achieved nothing to reassure American children and their parents. The impression is, on the contrary, that Washington has tried with all its might to excel in whipping up military hysteria. This is certainly not the way to help improve the international climate and give people confidence in a peaceful tomorrow.

It is equally disturbing that Washington, followed by certain other NATO capitals, completely rejected -- out of hand, as the saying goes -- the new Soviet proposals on the limitation and reduction of strategic arms and nuclear systems in Europe, without even taking time to study them properly and understand them in depth. It is putting it mildly to say that this is frivolous and even irresponsible. I am afraid that this reaction is further confirmation that the present Washington administration intends not only to refuse dialogue with the Soviet Union, but to step up the course of confrontation and intensify the arms race, including the nuclear arms race.

This conclusion is confirmed, in particular, by the reluctance of the leaders of the Washington administration to follow the Soviet Union's example and announce their renunciation of the first use of nuclear weapons. This reluctance is justified on the grounds that the USSR and the Warsaw Pact states allegedly have superiority over the United States and NATO in conventional, nonnuclear arms. That is not true, but we will not discuss this problem here. We will simply look at it from another angle. In his report in connection with the celebration of the USSR's 60th anniversary Yu.V. Andropov stated, as is known, that we are prepared to reach agreement on the sides' renouncing the first use of not only nuclear, but also conventional weapons.

We received no answer to this either. We realize that it is hard for people who think the more missiles and aircraft carriers they have, the better, to give such an answer. But it is not we alone who await an answer, it is the American children who wake and weep in fear.

On New Year's Eve Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, answering the questions of the American political observer J. Kingsbury-Smith, put forward new proposals both on strategic arms and on nuclear weapons in the European zone. He noted: "Soviet people and Americans now have one common enemy -- the threat of war and all that intensifies that threat." And since we have a common enemy, we and the Americans should have a common concern -- to crush that enemy -- before it is too late.

...Must American children continue to weep at night much longer?

U.S. 'Will Not Succeed'

PM131347 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 29 Dec 82 p 9

[Article by Vitaliy Kobysh under the rubric "Observer's Opinion": "Entering the Year of 1983"]

[Excerpt] The technological revolution alone would not have accomplished what is now happening in the world. We, our example and socialism's influence and aid to the peoples of the former colonial empires, have determined the changes which have occurred -- everywhere, on all continents. And those who once freely walked the world, appropriating other people's property, cannot forgive that. We stick in their throats to such an extent that they have embarked on something which goes against nature and the idea of life: They have confronted mankind with the likelihood of a nuclear conflict that could mean the end of everything that lives, themselves included.

Every new step in this matter is dangerous: No one knows what will be the detonator of a nuclear war. The deployment in West Europe of U.S. medium-range missiles targeted on the USSR and the other socialist countries scheduled for 1983 by Washington and NATO appears to be a particularly sinister measure. The authorities of those Western countries which have agreed to accept these missiles seem not to have entirely realized what the result of this could be for them. For instance, it is hard for us to understand how the FRG Government and public can allow weapons of mass destruction to be targeted on our cities again from their territory, that is from the land from which fascist Germany attacked the USSR. The year will not be a very joyful one if this happens.

The proposals set forth only recently during the jubilee festivities in Yu.V. Andropov's report, concerning the limitation and reduction of nuclear armaments in Europe and the reduction of all types of strategic weapons without exception and an agreement to renounce first use not only of nuclear but also of conventional weapons, were rejected out of hand by official Washington. This may be regretted, but it is also food for thought. What is the significance of the U.S. Administration's unrestrained urge to build up international tension and further step up the arms race in all types of armaments? After all, we have proved not in words but in practical deeds that we will not yield to anyone's diktat and will not allow the existing military parity to be violated. Why this frenzy, not curbed even by an understanding of the risk of self-destruction, and how is it to be explained?

Both the incumbent U.S. President and his associates occasionally say that the main aim of the massive military preparations they have mounted is to provoke the Soviet Union and involve it in an arms race which would prevent it from fulfilling the economic tasks it has set itself. It transpires that they are not afraid of Soviet missiles and tanks but of our 5-year plans and economic, social and cultural building.

Next year, too, it is to be assumed that they will act in the same direction, seeking to impede the USSR and other socialist community states in our main business: improving the people's living standard and safeguarding lasting peace on earth.

Clearly aware of these perfidious designs and their baseness, we have every justification, including in the purely material respect, for telling them: You will not succeed! The trouble with some U.S. presidents is that they believe that history starts from the moment they enter the White House. They frequently simply do not know what happened before them. Yet in fact attempts have been made to stifle us, including through military expenditure, since the moment the soviet state emerged. We held out. And we will hold out.

Everything attests that the tension artificially fueled by Washington will persist, various problems, a number of which -- the "Euromissiles" question, for instance -- will enter a critical stage. But experience shows that the most effective thing with which we can counter this is our labor, organization and discipline, our tranquillity, and our optimism, verified and justified by time.

SELSKAYA ZHIZN LAUDS WARSAW PACT PROPOSALS

PM131541 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 8 Jan 83 p 3

["View of Events" article by political observer Gennadiy Shishkin: "Lofty Goal"]

[Excerpt] The Soviet Union pursues a clear, consistent line toward preserving and consolidating peace and resolving today's most important task; namely, eliminating the mounting threat of nuclear war and establishing control over the nuclear arms race with a view to ending it. The latest Soviet proposals on limiting and reducing strategic nuclear arms and medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe, which were made by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov at the ceremony in honor of the 60th anniversary of the USSR, have prompted a particularly great response throughout the world.

Peace-loving forces see the Soviet proposals as a reliable path toward solving the central question of present-day international life -- that of war and peace. The Soviet Union's specific proposals, which are based on the principle of the sides' parity, equality and equal security, pave the way for the radical reduction of both sides' arms -- to the great benefit of world peace and security.

By contrast, as not only West European but also unbiased American observers now admit, so far the United States has only made proposals that are openly aimed at eliminating strategic parity and securing an advantage for itself. This is the explanation of the self-evident fact that the United States is stubbornly rejecting the principle of equality and equal security as the basis for the talks being held in Geneva. All this is causing legitimate fears among the international public that the United States and NATO have no intention at all of reducing nuclear arms. Washington is clearly seeking to frustrate an agreement in order that, citing the failure in the talks, it can one way or another deploy its missiles on the European Continent and continue the buildup of its own strategic potential.

All this is fraught with the threat that the New Year may be marked by a further increase in the danger of war. Our planet's peace-loving forces, especially the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, are fully determined to redouble and treble their efforts to prevent such a fateful development of events. The conference of the Warsaw Pact states' Political Consultative Committee that has just been held in Prague was devoted to resolving precisely that task. The Prague forum demonstrated the unity of the participating countries' views on the vital problems of European and world politics that were discussed and it provided new impetus for the solution of complex international problems in the name of strengthening peace and the peoples' security.

The conference put forth a whole series of constructive initiatives, among which a major peace proposal -- that a treaty on the mutual nonuse of force and the maintenance of relations of peace be concluded between the Warsaw Pact states and the North Atlantic Treaty states -- is attracting special attention from the world public. This proposal is evidence of the political will and readiness for cooperation in the interests of a peaceful future for Europe and the whole world.

WEST REACTION TO PRAGUE OFFER VIEWED

LD130056 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1400 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Commentary by Moscow radio correspondent Boris Rodionov]

[Text] The first week of 1983 brought a new broad action by the socialist countries aimed at improving the world political climate. I am thinking of the Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty states, adopted in Prague. Unanimous approval for this declaration expressed at the meeting of the Advisory Political Committee just like the entire session, illustrates how great is the role played in present conditions by the comprehensive cooperation of fraternal friendly countries and the struggle they are all waging for common goals in the international arena.

The proposal made by our states that an agreement should be signed between the Warsaw Treaty states and the NATO states on mutual [words indistinct] of military strength and on maintaining peaceful relations, has particular significance. If such a treaty is signed, it will contribute to reducing distrust between the states belonging to two opposed military blocs and will accord with the desire of nations to live in peace and harmony. The new proposal by the Warsaw Treaty states represents a logical continuation of the series of peace initiatives advanced by these states almost since the very moment the Warsaw Treaty was signed, beginning with the Rapacki Plan and ending with the latest Soviet proposal on Euromissiles formulated on 21 December last year in Comrade Andropov's report.

The practical possibility is emerging of halting the present dangerous course of affairs, of setting them on the right track, of consolidating mutual trust and of resolving one (?after another) tasks connected with the limitation and reduction of arsenals, and particularly the stockpiles of nuclear arms. That was how the new joint initiative of the socialist countries was assessed by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government.

It now depends on the United States and its NATO allies whether the possibility of preventing the build of nuclear weapons and rockets in Europe will be achieved, whether the danger which has hung over the continent and the world as a whole will be diminished, or whether, quite the reverse, it will grow appreciably.

The clear and simple proposal of the Warsaw Treaty states has torn the mask from those who use the myth of the Soviet threat and strive to upset the military balance in Europe and the world. This proposal has clearly aroused consternation in NATO circles. Initially they said it did not deserve a rely, that it was absolutely redundant. But later, after strong pressure from public opinion, they had to promise it would be carefully studied. NATO's Political Committee in particular made such a statement. No one doubts the difficulty of shirking a review of a document which proposes a realistic alternative to plunging toward nuclear catastrophe.

International commentators say the Prague Political Declaration illustrates in a [word indistinct] manner that the socialist countries clearly distinguish ideological problems from issues of interstate relations. They do not take any steps which could be construed as interference in the internal affairs of NATO states, although no doubt they could say something about the observance of human rights in certain NATO countries.

After all, it was in a NATO country that world famous writer Aziz Nesin appeared in court on a trumped-up charge, while the military prosecutor demanded punishments ranging from 8 to 15 years in jail for him and his fellow writers. Meanwhile, the accused's lawyers were blackmailed and even thrown in jail. Not one word is said in the NATO countries about such human rights achievements, but to make up for it they express hypocritical concern over rights and liberty in Poland. A PAP declaration has acknowledged that the criteria and demands formulated at the December session of the NATO Council are blatant interference in Poland's internal affairs and represent a violation of the Helsinki Final Act to which politicians in the capitals of the West so eagerly refer.

As far as the Prague session is concerned, the forum participants stressed again that Poland's internal affairs are, and will continue to be, resolved by Poland alone. Socialist Poland can always rely on the moral, political and economic support of the fraternal socialist countries.

For its part, the Soviet Union is doing everything to ensure that reason prevails in international affairs. The land of the soviets will continue to pursue a policy of peaceful coexistnece with states whose social systems are different, preserving great vigilance with regard to the [word indistinct] enemies of socialism and peace, as well as granting particular priority in its policies to the issue of friendship and cooperation with the fraternal socialist countries.

REPORTAGE ON WARSAW PACT MINISTERS MEETING

Husak Address

LD131915 Moscow TASS in English 1506 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Prague January 13 TASS -- The general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, President of Czechoslovakia Gustav Husak today received the participants in the regular meeting of the Defence Ministers' Committee of Warsaw Treaty member countries, held in the capital of Czechoslovakia on January 11-13. Present at the reception were minister of defence of the USSR, Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, defence ministers of fraternal socialist countries.

Speaking at the meeting, Gustav Husak stressed that consistent struggle for eliminating the threat of a nuclear catastrophe, for preserving peace on earth is the basis of the foreign policy of the countries of the socialist community. Of tremendous importance in this connection are the decisions adopted at the recent meeting in Prague of the Political Consultative Committee of Warsaw Treaty member countries and the initiatives contained in the concluding documents. He also noted the decisive importance of the inviolable friendship and military alliance of the armies of socialist countries, this being in the present complex international situation a reliable guarantee of peace and the security of the peoples of the world.

TASS on Meeting Results

LD131710 Moscow TASS in English 1706 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Concerning the Results of the Meeting of the Defence Ministers' Committee of Warsaw Treaty Member Countries -- TASS headline]

[Text] [No dateline received] -- A regular meeting of the Defence Ministers' Committee of Warsaw Treaty member states was held in Prague, the capital of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, from January 11 to 13, 1983.

The meeting was attended by the defence ministers of Warsaw Treaty member countries, the commander-in-chief and chief of staff of the joint armed forces.

The defence ministers' committee studied questions of the practical activity of the joint armed forces and adopted appropriate decisions. The meeting was presided by the Minister of National Defence of the Czechoslavak Socialist Republic General of the Army Martin Dzur.

The meeting passed in a businesslike atmosphere, in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding.

CSSR, HUNGARIAN, USSR FORCES TO HOLD EXERCISES

LD131100 Budapest MTI in English 1013 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Budapest, January 13 (MTI) -- Under the annual training plan of the Warsaw Treaty United Armed Forces, the ear-marked staffs and units of the Czechoslovak People's Army, the Hungarian People's Army and the Soviet Army are to carry out a tactical exercise on territory of the Hungarian People's Republic in the near future.

NATO-PACT TREATY NEEDS NATO 'POLITICAL WILL'

LD131220 Moscow TASS in English 1017 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- The proposal to conclude a treaty on the mutual non-use of military force and the maintenance of relations of peace between the Warsaw-treaty member states and the North Atlantic Treaty member-states, the newspaper PRAVDA writes today, is a major component of the socialist countries' international political program formulated in their Political Declaration as an alternative to nuclear catastrophe.

The Political Declaration, adopted by the participants in the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states in Prague, the paper points out, says that the core of the treaty could be the mutual commitment of the member-states of both alliances not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional weapons against each other and, consequently, not to be the first to use against each other any military force at all, with the sides pledging not to use military force either against each other's territories or against each other's military and civilian personnel and the sea-going air and space craft and other facilities belonging to the sides, irrespective of where they may be. "Moreover, the socialist countries propose to the NATO states extension of this mutual commitment to cover all countries, be the countries bound with the NATO states or the Warsaw Treaty countries by bilateral allied relations or non-aligned or neutral states."

The Warsaw Treaty member-states, the article says, offered to the NATO countries to include in the treaty on the mutual non-use of force not only legal commitments of non-aggression, but also very essential, dynamic commitments providing for joint positive actions in the interests of enhancing peace. In other words, if the Warsaw Treaty member-states and the countries of the North Atlantic alliance give each other commitments not to use military force, then none of them will have any grounds for believing that there is a threat of attack emanating from the other side. "Finally, the new proposal of the socialist countries, the members of the Warsaw Treaty, was put forward in the Political Declaration not as an isolated offer, it was advanced in a broad context of initiatives towards curbing the arms race and attaining disarmament and of questions connected with carrying forward the all-European process launched in Helsinki."

Understandably, PRAVDA concludes, the elaboration and conclusion of a treaty between the members of the two main alliances on the mutual non-use of military force and the maintenance of relations of peace requires the corresponding political will. "The socialist countries do not lack such political will. But do the countries of the North Atlantic alliance have it -- this is the question."

U.S. SEEN INTERFERING IN NONALIGNED CONFERENCE

LD132039 Moscow TASS in English 1247 GMT 13 Jan 83

["Washington Seeking To Arrogate the Role of Mentor of Non-Aligned Countries" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- TASS commentator Ruslan Knyazev reports: The U.S. Administration is rudely interfering in the work of the meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the non-aligned countries which is now under way in Managua. As Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto told journalists, representatives of the Reagan government had threatened several attending delegations, warning them that U.S. relations with the countries they were representing might be impaired if the meeting adopted a final communique criticising U.S. policy in Latin America.

The heightened interest shown by the U.S. emissaries in the work of the international meeting in Managua is far from being accidental. The United States is clearly worried by the mounting condemnation worldwide of its policy in Latin America aimed at stifling the national liberation movements.

This is the first time the Coordinating Bureau of the nonaligned countries has devoted a special meeting to the situation in that part of the world. Thus the aggressive intrigues of U.S. imperialism, which have resulted in a dramatic deterioration in the situation in Latin America, have become the subject of discussion at an important meeting of the Movement of Non-Alignment, which unites about 100 states with a total population of more than 1,500 million people. The meeting is discussing a draft final document, which quotes numerous facts of U.S. blatant intereference in the affairs of Latin American states, U.S. active support to anti-people dictatorships, and U.S. acts of sabotage against Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada.

The U.S. Administration is now trying to prevent at all costs a critical appraisal of its policy in a document of such a broadly representative forum. Washington diplomacy stops short of nothing to achieve its aims, including blackmail and pressure which are inadmissible in normal relations between sovereign states.

Thus, the U.S. ambassador to Managua has expressed to the Nicaraguan foreign minister the discontent of the U.S. Department of State with the draft final communique of the meeting of the Coordinating Bureau.

Moreoever, Miguel D'Escoto told journalists, U.S. President Reagan had claimed that the draft final document of the Managua meeting did not tally with the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement.

But shaping the policy of the non-aligned countries is the affair of these countries alone and not of the United States, which does not have anything to do with non-alignment. The claims of the White House, which has systematically violated the fundamental norms of international law, first of all the principle of non-interference in the affairs of other states, to the role of the Non-Aligned Movement's mentor are totally invalid.

MOSCOW TV VIEWS U.S. CABINET RESIGNATIONS, CHANGES

LD140206 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 13 Jan 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] Reports about confusion, Cabinet shakeups, differences and squabbles between top officials of the current Washington administration have become so commonplace that no one in America sees this as a sensation any longer. The latest manifestation of this atmosphere of mutual intolerance and confusion has been the resignation of a whole series of highly-placed officials in the administration, specifically Schweiker, secretary for health and human services, and also the dismissal of Eugene Rostow, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

Reagan has become the first elected president in the history of the United States who within his first 2 years in office has lost four members of the Cabinet, notes an ABC observer in this context. As regards Rostow, in ABC's view his dismissal can be interpreted as yet another piece of evidence of the Reagan administration's inability to solve the question of limiting the arms race in practice.

U.S. CHEMICAL ARMS BUILDUP 'UNPRECEDENTED'

LD132348 Moscow TASS in English 1348 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- The problem of chemical weapons has become most acute when Washington embarked upon implementation of plans of unprecedented buildup of U.S. military-chemical potential, writes the journal INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS [MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN]. If in the period from 1969 to 1976 the Pentagon's allocations for chemical means of warfare remained approximately at an annual level of 10-20 million dollars, the monthly journal writes in its January issue, in 1979 they were brought to 123 million dollars, and in 1980 -- to 157 million dollars.

The article notes a sharp rise in budget allocations for chemical weapons since the time Reagan administration came to power: 1980 -- 262 million dollars, 1982 -- 532 million dollars. In the new fiscal year, which began on October 1, 1982, it is planned to bring allocations in that sphere up to 810 million dollars.

Noting that American military specialists consider chemical weapons as offensive armaments, the journal writes that "the Pentagon leadership now seeks to deploy chemical weapons in direct proximity of the frontiers of the Soviet Union...The Pentagon has long ago drawn up plans to increase the stocks of toxic agents, kept on the territory of the FRG, to deploy chemical ammunition in Italy and Britain."

Recalling that about 2 million people fell victim to U.S. criminal chemical warfare in Vietnam, the journal points out: "At all international forums, which consider the question of chemical weapons, the United States does the utmost to block up progress in that sphere."

"As to the USSR, it has been consistently advocating that chemical weapons be outlawed," the journal INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS writes.

MOSCOW, CHICAGO TALKS ON U.S.-USSR TRADE VIEWED

'Great Economic Potential'

LD131904 Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Chicago (Illinois) January 13 TASS - TASS correspondent Anatoliy Lazarev reports:

The all-round development of trade and economic relations between the Soviet Union and the United States meets the interests of both states. This is the keynote of a conference on problems of American-Soviet trade, which was held here on Wednesday. It was held on the initiative of 15 organizations, including the U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council and the American Committee on East-West Accord.

Equitable trade, said President of the Midamerica International Business Council John Allen, has always brought benefit to all its participants. This is particularly correct with relation to the United States and the USSR, taking into account their great economic potential. Both countries will gain if a rise in trade between them is ensured, stressed John Allen.

For the United States growth in Soviet-American trade, said President of the Salk, Ward and Salk corporation Erwin Salk, is the way of efficient solution of the acute problem of unemployment, increasing labour productivity. What curtailment in trade and introduction of various "sanctions" lead to is shown, for instance, by the state of Illinois which severely suffered from those discriminating measures against the Soviet Union, since it lost many contracts.

Former U.S. Secretary of Commerce Philip Klutznick drew the attention of American businessmen to the senselessness of attempts of the policy of economic "sanctions" against the USSR. It is only the development of trade between the two states that can help relax tension in the world, he stressed.

John Kiser, representative of the research firm "Kiser Research", denounced attempts of opponents of development of Soviet-American trade and economic relations to belittle the benefits from the use of progressive Soviet technology in industry of the United States. He noted a high level of the Soviet Union's accomplishments in many spheres of science and technology. The Soviet Union is ahead of Western countries, including the United States, in methods of metal working and welding, in the sphere of nuclear physics, etc, he said and emphasized that many American corporations readily purchase sophisticated technology from the Soviet Union and broadly use it in production.

The Chicago conference patently demonstrated that U.S. business and financial circles show major interest in the development of trade and economic relations with the Soviet Union.

Technology Transfer Considered

LD131340 Moscow TASS in English 1310 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS - Despite the existing obstacles, trade cooperation between the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. should develop since it meets the interests of both countries. This the opinion of the Soviet and American scientists, experts and businessmen, who took part in a bilateral meeting in Moscow, involving economic experts of the U.N. associations in the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A.

The meeting which came to a close yesterday, focused on East-West trade, including pressing issues of Soviet-American commercial contacts. The conferees listed restrictions on credits and the sale of the so-called "high-technology" products to the Soviet Union among the main factors preventing an active development of these relations. In the course of the discussion, which both sides described as having been useful, they also paid attention to the economic development of the two countries.

The next expert meeting is scheduled to take place in the United States in 1984.

REAGAN SAID TO BE 'DESTROYING U.S. ECONOMY'

LD121630 Moscow TASS in English 1614 GMT 12 Jan 83

["Reaganomics Destroying U.S. Economy" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 12 TASS -- TASS commentator Leonid Ponomarev writes: In 1981 when Ronald Reagan assumed presidential office, the U.S. national debt stood at one trillion dollars, while by 1985, at the end of his four-year term in the White House, it is expected to grow by another 700 billion dollars. In other words, in the four years of Reagan's rule the national debt will have increased by 70 per cent as compared with the overall debt made by the former governments in the entire U.S. history. These astounding figures were cited in his commentary yesterday by John Chancellor, a news analyst of the NBC television network. He added that the growth of the federal budget deficit toally dashed the Americans' hopes for a speedy recovery of the U.S. economy.

Many in the United States today are surmising whether there will be an upturn in the U.S. economy and guessing when it occurs if it ever does. In the current situation where the Reagan program is in force, it would, perhaps, be more correct to ask whether an upturn is possible at all. There are ample grounds for raising this question. The country now has 20 million fully or partially unemployed. This means that every fifth able-bodied American is unable to provide subsistence to both himself or herself and his or her family. 20 per cent of the American families suffer from unemployment directly and another 40 per cent sense the lurking, increasing threat of unemployment. The jobless are in a real plight. According to American expert estimates, in the 1970s from 32 to 38 million jobs were closed in U.S. industry alone. Last year facilities in many industries operated at hardly a 50 per cent capacity.

There is also another field where Reagan's policy is doing particularly palpable damage and where he has beat all records. This field is military spending. The incumbent President is spending more for military needs than any of his predecessors. THE WASHINGTON POST said today that the government expenditure for military purposes in fiscal 1984 will grow by 14 per cent over the fiscal year of 1983. This gives grounds even to very reserved American forecasters for taking a sceptical view of Reagan's further programs for "reconstructing" the U.S. economy. Thus, specialists of Minnesota University say that the U.S. economy has perhaps never over the past 50 years been in such a mess as now. The current slump is the deepest and the most dangerous in the entire post-war period, they warn. The Reagan administration's economic policy, emphasises economics Professor William Nordhouse of Yale University, is destroying the country's economy.

WHITE HOUSE ATTEMPTING TO 'MUZZLE' PRESS

LD122326 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Commentary by TASS commentator Ivan Ablamov]

[Text] The White House has made another attempt to put a muzzle on the American press. President Reagan has ordered that American officials restrict contacts with newsmen; disciplinary action will be taken against the mavericks.

The United States President must have been angered over press reports on differences concerning the draft bill for the federal budget in 1984 at Congress, in the upper echelons of the Republican Party and even within the Reagan administration to some extent. Washington is going out of its way to make it appear as if the economic situation were changing for the better, but the actual situation is this: Because of the mammoth military spending and lackluster results of Reaganomics, the United States may land with a staggering budget deficit in 1984, $200 billion. This, in turn, confronts the nation with a protracted economic stagnation, mass unemployment and a new spiral in the inflation rate.

This is what has touched off the controversy over the military budget. One might just as well recall that presidential elections are to be held in 1984, the Republicans still remember the returns of the mid-term election last year when the voters turned thumbs down on the (?all too) zealous adherents of the Reagan course. As a matter of fact, press leaks are something that the White House, the State Department and the Pentagon often resort to, but only when they feel they need it, for instance, when they want to circulate still another fable about those Russians, or to browbeat the West European allies, Japan and other partners. But in other cases the White House plays tough, suffice to recall the way the director of the Office of Management and Budget was called into line at the beginning of President Reagan's term in office when he ventured to criticize the administration's economic policy in the press. And one recalls the irritation of President Reagan and other government officials as they lashed out against the press and television for their protrayal of the drama of the unemployed, poor and ethnic minorities. The present presidential interference shows once again that Washington plays the hypocrite as it holds forth on freedom of the press in United States.

U.S. PRESS CRITICISM OF REAGAN POLICIES NOTED

LD121252 Moscow TASS in English 1208 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] New York January 12 TASS -- The U.S. press critically appraises the results of Ronald Reagan's two-year activities as the President of the United States. The newspaper CHICAGO TRIBUNE points out, in particular, that the administration has not virtually come forward with any constructive initiative in the field of foreign and domestic policies. The so-called "zero option", as has been admitted by many officials in the U.S. Government, was advanced by President Reagan with a view only to producing impression on the Europeans who are concerned over the step-up of the nuclear arms race and over Washington's bellicose statements. As far as the negotiations on reducing nuclear arms in Europe are concerned, Reagan's proposal, from the viewpoint of experts, is evidence of the administration's not serious stand on this problem.

The CHICAGO TRIBUNE, referring to the contradictory and erroneous activities of the U.S. President, gives as an example the USA's Latin American policy in the past two years.

The President, while stating his interest in broadening contacts and improving U.S. relations with all states of Latin America, at the same time patronizes and supports ultrarightist regimes which have fully compromised themselves in the eyes of the public. The CHICAGO TRIBUNE points out that there is no doubt that in Latin America, in the Middle East and in other parts of the world the Reagan administration has not managed to solve many problems.

However, the most shattering setback has been suffered by Washington on the economic front. In this connection the newspaper NEW YORK TIMES recalls the words of Reagan who stated in his time that upon taking office in the White House he would seek to provide all Americans with jobs and would improve the country's economic position.

But nothing of the kind has taken place. Unemployment has reached a record-high level since the times of the "Great Depression" of the thirties. The country's economy has bogged down in the quagmire of the crisis, dragging with it the entire economic system of the Western world. Colossal military expenditures have aggravated the country's economic difficulties and made for an unprecedented growth of the already huge deficit of the federal budget. THE NEW YORK TIMES stressed that by continuing to pursue a policy of building up armaments instead of tackling acute domestic problems, Reagan has weakened, rather than strengthened, the might of the United States. The newspaper points out that one can say with confidence that the policy of the present administration has been erroneous in practically all fields.

NEW VOA HEAD TO PURSUE 'MORE AGGRESSIVE POLICY'

PM121331 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jan 83 Morning Edition p 3

[Article from Yu. Romanov "World today" feature under the rubric "Apt Remarks": "Muddying the Airwaves"]

[Text] People are thrashing about aimlessly at the Voice of America radio station. A debate is in progress. Some assert: "Our business is done for," while others, on the contrary, say: "As the priest is, so is the parish!" This means that since the White House has announced the start of that notorious propaganda adventure -- the "anticommunist crusade," the VOA must cast aside all the fig leaves of assertions about "impartiality and objectivity" by which it claims to be guided.

Kenneth Tomlinson, the new VOA director, has no fears or doubts in this respect. Not for nothing has he hitherto edited the READER'S DIGEST, a magazine with longstanding ultraconservative traditions. It is well known that during World War II Goebbels' counterpropaganda workers dropped pamphlets containing the texts of articles from the READER'S DIGEST on American troop positions. As THE LOS ANGELES TIMES noted, the new VOA director is the "placeman of the extreme right." His "Godfathers" were the extreme right-wing Republicans Congressman Jack Kemp and Senator Gordon Humphrey. "Pushing" Tomlinson into the post of director, they instructed their protege to pursue a "more aggressive" propaganda policy.

Thus the dubious legends about the "reliability and objectivity" of VOA reports and its "sound reputation" have been debunked once and for all. It appears that the VOA has finally decided to discredit itself with the misinformation and outright lies it spreads.

As for those who shed tears for the "times of solidarity," they will doubtless find consolidation. After all, there is not that much difference between a lie seasoned with assurances of authenticity and an outright lie. As for the assertion of the VOA's "sound reputation," this has been seriously damaged by the absurdities and malicious, slanderous reports with which they muddy the airwaves.

IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL REPLIES TO NEWSOM ARTICLE

LD122154 Moscow TASS in English 2059 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 12 TASS -- The newspaper IZVESTIYA has published a commentary entitled "The Vicious Circle of Lies," giving a reply to the question put by David Newsom, one-time assistant secretary of state and now director of the school of foreign service at the Georgetown University, "Why doesn't the rest of the world believe what we say about the Russians?" addressed by him to the readers of THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR.

The answer to this question, IZVESTIYA writes, is clear: "You shouldn't lie. You shouldn't lie that 'Russian chemical agents are used to poison Afghans and Kampucheans. You shouln't try to scare the Middle East with the bogey of the 'Soviet threat'. The concoctions about 'the intervention of the Soviets in Poland's internal affairs' should have long been given up as well. There is no need to characterise Americans and West Europeans protesting against nuclear weapons as 'Moscow's puppets.' It is also more than time to shelve machinations with 'figures' and 'graphs' intended to make the public believe in the 'stupefying military superiority of the USSR over the United States'..."

"The lies poured by the propaganda agencies of the United States over the Soviet Union," the commentary continues, "are intended as a face-saver for Washington's foreign policy. That is why it does not suit the United States to tell the truth about the real situation with chemical weapons: The truth is that U.S. troops used chemical agents in Indochina and that American chemical agents are being used by American mercenaries against the Afghan people."

"It does not suit it," the newspaper continues, "to tell the truth about the actual meaning of Soviet foreign policy in the Middle East: In this case it will have to confess simultaneously that it is the United States that is keeping the fire of aggression in the Middle East going with the Zionists' hands. If Washington admitted that the Polish people are themselves resolving their problems, how could it 'justify' its sanctions against the USSR and Poland? To agree to the rightfulness of the protests of the mass of the Western population against the U.S. thermonuclear 'doctrines' and their implementation means to demonstrate that the administration acts contrary to the aspirations of the peoples, including the Americans. And if Washington risked to say that there is no 'Soviet military superiority' in real fact and that there is rough balance between the USA and the USSR and between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty organization, how could the administration then rationalise the unprecedented arms race unleased by it?"

"Lies about the Soviet Union in this way are first and foremost lies about the foreign policy of the United States. But it is not by the garb it puts on that policy is judged but by the deeds of the makers and followers of this policy. As for the deeds of the United States in the world scene, they have nothing in common with the words in which they are dressed," the commentary says in conclusion.

CHINA'S 'UNFOUNDED TERRITORIAL CLAIMS' DENOUNCED

LD132216 Moscow TASS in English 2155 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 14 TASS -- Follows the text of the article "What Is the Purpose?" published today in the NEW TIMES [NOVOYE VREMYA] magazine:

"Last year was marked, among other things, by the beginning of an enlivening of Soviet-Chinese relations and a softening of the atmosphere around them. This has been widely noted by observers of international affairs everywhere.

"Soviet-Chinese consultations were held in Beijing in October and are to be continued after some time in Moscow. In both countries this is seen as a good, useful beginning. At the same time it is realized that the search for mutually acceptable avenues for normalising Soviet-Chinese relations will require time and persevering effort on both sides."

"The tendency towards the gradual improvement of Soviet-Chinese relations and the discarding of the ballast of the past can be traced to a number of reasons. Needless to say, the principal, most deep-going and constant factor underlying the incipient change is and will continue to be the the interests and aspirations of the peoples of the two countries which are linked by revolutionary traditions, struggle for the socialist reconstruction of society and long-standing friendship. Estrangement between the Soviet Union and China brought them nothing but harm. Both peoples and states need good relations to solve their own problems, and they also have things in common. The first and foremost among these is the ensuring of peace and security. All people of good will welcome the improvement of Soviet-Chinese relations, seeing in it an important contribution to world peace."

"True to its policy, the Soviet Union is doing everything to consolidate and develop the positive trend that has asserted itself in Soviet-Chinese relations. This striving is expressed in the decisions of the 26th Congress of the CPSU and speeches of Soviet leaders."

"The CPSU and the Soviet Government," CPSU General Secretary Yuriy Andropov stressed at the November 1982 plenary meeting of the Central Committee, "sincerely want to see relations with all the socialist countries developed further and improved. Mutual good will, respect for one another's legitimate interests, and common concern for the interests of socialism and peace should prompt the right decisions also where, for various reasons, the necessary trust and mutual understanding have not yet been reached. This applies also to our great neighbour -- the People's Republic of China."

"The public pronouncements of Soviet leaders reflect the principled and consistent policy of our country and are confirmed by the actions of the Soviet Union, by the stand it takes in practice towards the PRC."

"Latterly the Chinese side too has made no few statements emphasizing its serious intention to work for the improvement of relations with the Soviet Union. On October 18 general secretary of the Communist Party of China, Hu Yaobang, for instance, said that China hoped that Sino-Soviet relations would follow the lines 'of sound development'."

"In these circumstances one cannot but be puzzled by some prouncements of an altogether different order by Chinese leaders, as well as by current Chinese propaganda releases, which are at variance with the above-mentioned Chinese declarations and the steps that are being taken towards the normalising Soviet-Chinese relations.

"It is noteworthy that people in leading positions in China continue to allege that the Soviet Union is pursuing a 'policy of hegemonism and expansionism' and thereby presenting a 'threat to China'. The Chinese media level unwarranted attacks on various aspects of Soviet policy.

In November and December the RENMIN RIBAO alone carried dozens of articles denigrating the political course of the USSR."

"One thing stands out in particularly glaring contrast to the new tendencies in Soviet-Chinese relations. As before, the systematic circulation is continuing in China of articles and other materials containing totally unfounded contentions about the 'seizure' by Russia and the Soviet Union of Chinese lands, and the 'unequal character' of treaties defining the Russian-Chinese (the present Soviet-Chinese) frontier. Attempts are being made to provide 'scientific substantiation' for such contentions. Besides scientific institutions in Beijing, more and more provincial research institutes and specialized journals published by them are being enlisted in this."

"For instance, the journal SHEHUI KEXUE ZHANXIAN (SOCIAL SCIENCE FRONT), published in Jilin Province, and the journal XUEXI YU TANSUO (STUDY AND EXPLORATION) put out in Heilongjiang Province carry in practically every issue articles that misrepresent the history of the demarcation of our frontier with China. Ever wider currency is being given to maps of 'historical territories' which, it is claimed, once belonged to China and were 'seized' by Russia. Such maps are invariable attributes of history textbooks used in schools and institutions of higher learning.

All this can hardly be qualified as anything other than a form of presenting territorial claims on the Soviet Union."

"One of these outline maps was printed in the journal LISHI JIAOXUE [spelling of name as received] (TEACHING OF HISTORY), published in Tianjin, with this explanatory note: 'Within a half century, beginning with the fifties of the 19th century, Tsarist Russia seized, through unequal treaties (the Treaties of Aigun, Beijing and Chuguchak) and by other means, more than 1.5 million square kilometres of territory in northeast and northwest China.' The authors of the map classify the entire Soviet territory from the Chinese frontier to Lake Balkhash, the whole of the Pamirs, the Soviet part of the Amur and Ussuri River Basins, the maritime territory, Sakhalin, and other areas as having been 'seized' from China."

"There is no need to conjecture as to the purpose of such maps. It has been revealed by Chinese authors themselves. For instance, a teacher from Hangzhou, writing in the journal LISHI JIAOXUE about how to make the best use of such maps in the study process, says that they make it easier for students 'to assimilate the historical fact of the seizure of tsarist Russian of more than 1.5 million square kilometres of Chinese territory...awaken hatred for both the new and the old Tsars, and foster patriotism.' In other words, the idea is to bring up the rising generation in a spirit of distrust of and enmity towards a neighbouring country."

"The claims to Soviet territory find reflection also in the writings of Chinese geographers. The latest instance is the world geographical dictionary put out by a Shanghai dictionary publisher in an edition of 50,000 copies. According to the introduction, the book is intended for a broad readership interested in geography, history, and world affairs."

"Territorial claims on the USSR are manifest in the articles of the dictionary on the Soviet Far East and the Central Asian Soviet republics which classify as having 'formerly belonged to China' and later been 'seized by imperialist Russia' such localities and territories as Alma-Ata, Baykal, Balkhash, Blagoveshchensk, Vladivostok, the Zaysan Depression, central and eastern Kirghiziya, Kyakhta, Nikolayevsk on the Amur, Partizansk [spelling of name as received] maritime territory, Sakhalin, Sikhote-Alin Range, Stanovoy Range, Ussuriysk, Khabarovsk territory, and Khabarovsk. The authors arbitrarily designate some geographical points in the Soviet Union by Chinese names. Last but not least, the dictionary makes a point of the 'unequal treaties' by means of which Russia allegedly 'seized' the enumerated localities and districts."

"One cannot but ask: What is the purpose of all this?

One thing is clear: The incessant discourses of 'unequal treaties' and 'Russian seizure of territory' do not tally either with the historical truth or with effort towards normalising Soivet-Chinese relations, and they cannot but impede the clearing away of the accretions of the past. Indeed, how can this objective be served, for instance, by inculcating in school-children, and in general the rising generation in China, a feeling of hatred towards the USSR? To declare the intention to improve and develop Soviet-Chinese relations and at the same time to present territorial claims on the USSR, to make overt or covert sallies against its fundamental state interests -- this is a logic that is difficult to understand."

"It is in place to mention that the Chinese side has on repeated occasions declared it has no territorial claims on the USSR. These assurances are completely contradicted by the publication and ever wider circulation in China of 'historical' writings and all manner of cartographic exercises on this subject.

"Besides, the Soviet Union and China have been engaged in frontier talks since 1969. Would it not be more logical to concentrate on continuing these talks with a view to arriving at a durable border settlement instead of circulating far-fetched 'historical' researchers relating to territories belonging to the negotiating partner?"

"The Soviet side is invariably for the continuation of the border talks, the previous round of which took place in 1978. It believes tht it is necessary to finalize the frontier settlement and define the borderline wherever necessary."

"Regrettably, however, the Chinese side takes a different stand. For years, until recently, it held that the frontier settlement is the key issue on which the further development of Soviet-Chinese relations depends. Now it holds that the border talks are not urgent and gives priority to other issues."

"Beijing evidently is not inclined to resume the frontier talks. Instead, claims are being advanced more and more persistently to Soviet territories alleged to have belonged to China at one time and 'justification' is sought for these pretensions. Besides, treaties on the basis of which the precise demarcation of some sections of the border should be done are declared to be 'unequal'.

"On the whole, the impression is that the Chinese side is keeping the border issue 'in reserve' as a ready-made 'sure' expedient for retarding the process of normalisation. To this end the border settlement is replaced by territorial claims on the USSR.

"A genuine striving to improve and normalize Soviet-Chinese relations presupposes clear and unconditional renunciation of territorial claims on each other, however expressed. The Soviet Union, as its leaders have clearly declared, has no such claims on China.

"Besides, the version about Russian 'conquest' of Chinese territory has nothing in common with the historical truth. The history of the demarcation of the frontiers between Russia and China was a long and complex one, but the fact remains that Russia never seized any Chinese territory. What the authors of the 'seizure' contention consider to be 'Chinese territory' is another matter."

"The territories which Beijing qualifies as 'Chinese lands' lost as a result of 'seizure' by Russia actually never were part of the Chinese state nor was their population Chinese. The demarcation line between Russia and China passed through territories inhabited by peoples at different levels of social development and even having their own statehood. The question of where they belong the peoples of the USSR long ago resolved once and for all through the exercise of their own free will on the basis of self-determination."

"The Soviet Union has never defended truly unequal treaties or the policy of aggression pursued by Russian Tsarism.

"That policy was denounced by the Bolshevik party led by Lenin and it was completely put an end to by the October Revolution in Russia. Soviet power annulled the unequal treaties the Tsarist regime had imposed on China independently or in league with other imperialist powers and completely abolished all elements of inequality in relations between Russia and China. This was noted not only by Sun Yat-sen, but also by Mao Zedong and other Chinese leaders. But, as has been made plain time and again, neither in the writings of Lenin nor in any other documents of the CPSU and the Soviet Government has there ever been any mention of a revision of the frontier treaties and agreements or any doubt cast on the validity of the frontier between the two countries. That frontier is defined by the treaties now operative, which are legally binding on both the USSR and the PRC."

"History abounds in instances of the rise and fall of states and migrations of peoples in the course of which frontiers between countries repeatedly changed. If this serious problem is treated lightly, anything could be proved by invoking 'historical precedents.' It may be recalled that talking to Edgar Snow in October 1960 Zhou Enlai said that if everybody began settling scores going back to distant times there would be chaos in the world. The principle of continuity, of observance of frontier treaties in force, is a norm of international law recognized by all states. Negation of historically conditioned borders and the artificial creation of 'territorial problems' is a highly dangerous exercise."

"It is easy to imagine what would happen to the world if maps of 'lost' territories ascribing their 'loss' to 'aggression' and 'seizure' by others began to be put out in the capitals of all countries. The Chinese side seeks to justify its claims to Soviet territories by invoking facts drawn from the hoary past -- long forgotten temporary seizures or chance incursions, as well as the perfectly natural contacts and intercourse with the indigenous population of these territories. Even the imaginary suzerainty over other people's territory Beijing once claimed for the Chinese emperor is considered to be 'valid' grounds for territorial pretensions."

"It will be recalled how sharp was the reaction of the Chinese side when Japan began revising its school textbooks and, manipulating historical facts, gave its own interpretation of Japanese aggression. That reaction was justified. For the dignity, honour and interests of the Chinese people were at stake. But it should be clear that the interests, dignity and honour of other peoples are no less important."

"The Soviet side has time and again set forth its fair, considered and balanced stand on the territorial and frontier issues artificially raised by the Chinese side."

"'The frontier between the Soviet Union and China which took shape many generations ago reflected, and continues to reflect, the actual settlement of territories by the peoples of the two states along natural mountain and river lines,' the Soviet Government has stated. 'This frontier has been legally defined throughout its entire length by treaties, protocols, maps.... All the afore-said treaties, as well as other documents defining the border between the Soviet Union and China, remain to this day valid interstate documents binding on both countries.'"

"We in our country clearly cannot ignore the tendentious treatment in China of the history of Russian-Chinese relations, the fact that the study of that history is projected at substantiating patently unfounded territorial claims on the USSR. This is a question of fundamental importance that calls for an appropriate answer and elucidation."

[Signed] Observer.

PRC, ANGOLA ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

LD130512 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] The Peoples Republic of Angola and the PRC have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of 12 January. This was reported by Angola's national radio, quoting the joint Angolan-PRC communique signed [words indistinct].

U.S.-PRC TEXTILE TALKS A 'DISAPPOINTMENT'

LD140932 Moscow TASS in English 0817 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Washington January 14 TASS --Upon completion of the latest round of American-Chinese talks on textiles in Peking, J. Hughes, an official representative of the U.S. State Department, expressed "disappointment" at a press conference with the fact that the talks had closed without any agreement reached. China was reported to press ahead for a six percent increase a year in its textile exports to the USA. But Washington stubbornly opposes that, protecting the interests of the American textile industry "tycoons".

The representative of the U.S. State Department did not miss an opportunity to issue obvious threats against China. He said, among other things, that in conditions of a lack of agreement the USA would take measures to protect its market from Chinese exports.

LATE REPORT: USSR-PRC TALKS TO RESUME IN MARCH

OW140649 Tokyo KYODO in English 0646 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Beijing Jan 14 KYODO -- China and the Soviet Union will open the next round of their talks on vice foreign ministerial level to improve their relations in Moscow early March, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday.

The first round was held in Beijing last October at the Soviet proposal but ended inconclusively.

Before their relations can be normalized, China had demanded that the Soviet Union remove three major obstacles -- presence of Soviet troops on the Sino-Soviet and Sino-Mongolian borders, Soviet military presence in Afghanistan and Soviet support of Vietnam's invasion of Kampuchea.

In the coming Moscow talks, however, there is a strong possibility that the two countries would achieve new progress for exchanges in trade, cultural, academic, scientific and sports fields.

Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang, visiting Tanzania in the course of a tour of African countries, said Thursday China wants to normalize its relations with the Soviet Union, China's official news agency XINHUA said Friday.

Zhao also said China hopes Soviet leaders would make efforts to remove the obstacles to improve the bilateral relations, XINHUA said.

Zhao denounced the United States for its arms exports to Taiwan by saying such action constituted intervention in China's domestic affairs.

Zhao repeatedly demanded that the U.S. observe the U.S.-China communique issued last August by gradually reducing its arms exports to Taiwan.

OVCHINNIKOV VIEWS NAKASONE VISIT TO SEOUL

LD131415 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2300 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, 13 Jan (TASS) -- Nakasone's "impromptu" visit is primarily intended to please Washington because this is the first time since the war that a Japanese head of government has visited South Korea. This in itself is being depicted as a "turning-point" in relations between Tokyo and Seoul, Vsevolod Ovchinnikov writes in PRAVDA. However, the visit is also designed to formulate an agreement on loans and credits, which will result in a considerable proportion of the expenses for strengthening South Korean military potential and for maintaining American troops in South Korea being placed on the shoulders of the Japanese taxpayer.

The Japanese-South Korean talks are obviously intended to create a "more favorable atmosphere" for the coming meeting between Nakasone and Reagan, the commentary says. The White House has long been pushing Tokyo toward more (?active rapprochement with Seoul, and the) [passage indistinct]. Japanese-South Korean frictions are regarded with irritation and as a hindrance to U.S. Far East strategy.

In response to this, Seoul -- obviously on advice from across the ocean -- requested a loan of $10 billion on easy terms from Tokyo, the writer recalls. The motive for this was pretty cynical: If, the reasoning goes, Japan cannot build up its military budget at the rate the United States would like, let Japan relieve the Pentagon's burden, at least indirectly, by financing the Seoul regime, whose military expenditure comprises more than one-third of the state budget. As a result of 1 and 1/2 years of bargaining, the South Korean side reduced its request first to $6 billion and then to $4 billion.

"Official Tokyo circles are doing everything to deny the fact that the deal in question has any military aspect," writes the PRAVDA political observer. "However, its real significance is evident. As the KYODO agency justly notes, this is a step toward creating a system of military collaboration in the Washing-Tokyo-Seoul triangle."

Visit Ends

SK130528 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Talks between Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone and Chon Tu-hwan, chieftain of the South Korean regime, have ended in Seoul. A joint communique was adopted. According to new reports, both sides have agreed to develop their relations in close cooperation with the United States.

Nakasone's visit to Washington accords with the Washington's sinister plot to fabricate a tripartite strategic alliance in Northeast Asia.

JAPANESE WORKERS PROTEST VISIT OF U.S. CARRIER

LD121228 Moscow TASS in English 1150 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Tokyo January 12 TASS -- Trade unions of port workers of Sasebo published a statement in protest against the forthcoming call of the U.S. nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Enterprise to that Japanese port.

The newspaepr AKAHATA writes today that the Enterprise, that "floating airfield," is the main strike force of the 7th U.S. Fleet. The ship carries F-14 fighter-bombers as well as nuclear-capable A-6 and A-7 planes. In the opinion of Japanese democratic forces, the purpose of the plans of "legalising" the calls of the aircraft carrier to Japanese ports is to stamp out three officially proclaimed non-nuclear principles, specifically that banning the import of nuclear weapons to Japan.

SEOUL 'ONEROUS DEPENDENCE ON UNITED STATES' DECRIED

LD140546 Moscow TASS in English 1846 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- Partnership with Washington has put Seoul into an onerous dependence on the United States, made it a U.S. puppet, a nuclear hostage, a proving ground for perfecting the tactics of modern warfare and a beachhead of U.S. militarism in the Far East, the newspaper IZVESTIYA writes in its article "Fruit of Partnership" today.

The newspaper points out that one of the run-of-the-mill ploys of Western propaganda for the developing countries is the concoction about the "beneficial influence" of partnership with imperialism and recalls that the boons advertised by the Western media include "economic prosperity," "political stability," "security guarantees" and that usually South Korea is held up as a textbook example of this "benevolence."

In reality, however, unemployment in the south of the Korean peninsula is close to one million, inflation has long been in the two digit figures, foreign debt stands at 33 billion dollars, one of the highest in the world, and the budgetary deficit about five billion dollars.

The economic plight of South Korea is compounded by unbearable military spending. Seoul, encouraged by the American militarists, is spending for military [word indistinct] about 40 percent of its budget. The cost of the five [word indistinct] of the speedy modernisation of the Armed Forces carried out by South Korea at present will be according to the ASSOCIATED PRESS, 10.3 (?billion) dollars.

The [word indistinct] situation has been caused by the undemocratic policy of the Seoul authorities, by the very political system which has evolved in South Korea under Washington's direct influence, the newspaper continues.

There is not even a hint at "political stability," the newspaper says. The only backing the selfstyled president gets is that (?vote) by a strong army and a powerful police machine.

As for the "security guarantees," they have only resulted in the rebuild-up of U.S. [words indistinct] in the south of the Korean peninsula, in the virtual perpetuation of [word indistinct] occupation and in turning South Korea into a U.S. nuclear hostage, the newspaper [word indistinct] conclusion.

PHAM VAN DONG CITED ON INDOCHINA ISSUES

PM131533 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Pham Van Dong Statement"]

[Text] Hanoi, 10 Jan -- The Vietnamese people will continue to strengthen solidarity between the three peoples of Indochina -- solidarity which was tempered in the years of the joint struggle by Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea against colonialism, imperialism and reaction and in defense of national independence and freedom, Pham Van Dong, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, stated in an interview for the Swiss weekly VOIX OUVRIERE.

Not for the first time in their history, he said the countries of Indochina are confronting a hysterical campaign of lies and slander unleashed against them by the forces of imperialism and international reaction. Recent UN resolutions on the so-called "Kampuchean question" are contrary to common sense, international legal norms and the real situation in Kampuchea, whose people are resolutely opposing the intrigues of the Kampuchean revolution's enemies. But these decisions cannot change the situation in Kampuchea. We are confident that the United Nations will ultimately recognize the irreversible nature of the changes in Kampuchea.

We sincerely desire dialogue with the ASEAN countries on questions of preserving peace and security in Southeast Asia, Pham Van Dong stated. Our relations with those states have improved considerably. We hope the ASEAN countries will pursue a more realistic policy and sincerely cooperate with Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in the cause of strengthening stability in the region.

He went on to state: Our invariable, consistent policy is that Vietnam advocates the normalization of relations with the PRC "while remaining prepared for the worst from China."

The SRV head of government noted that the country is experiencing certain difficulties due, in particular, to the U.S. aggressive war, which inflicted great damage on Vietnam's economy. Despite these difficulties, he said, all our people are selflessly fighting for the sake of building socialism and defending the motherland.

USSR, SRV DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFER

PM131113 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Jan 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 3 January M.S. Kapitsa, USSR deputy foreign minister, met Vo Dong Giang, Viethamese vice foreign minister. In the course of the conversation, which took place in an atmosphere of friendship and complete mutual understanding, certain questions relating to the further development of Soviet-Vietnamese relations and a number of international problems of common interest were discussed.

SRV'S TRUONG CHINH MEETS WITH PRK'S BOU THANG

PM121529 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Dec 82 Morning Edition p 8

[TASS report from unatrributed "World Today" feature: "Friendship and Solidarity"]

[Text] Vietnam will entirely fulfill its commitments to the People's Republic of Kampuchea [PRK] in the spirit of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between the SRV and the PRK, Truong Chinh, member of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SRV State Council, has declared, TASS reports.

Speaking at a meeting with the Kampuchean delegation headed by Bou Thang, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Politburo, vice chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers and PRK minister of national defense, which is visiting Hanoi, he noted that the special relations of friendship, combat solidarity and close cooperation between Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea are the guarantee of a successful struggle by their peoples for independence, peace, stability and mutual understanding in Southeast Asia.

The Kampuchean people, Bou Thang declared in his reply, express sincere gratitude to the Vietnamese people and to the fraternal socialist countries' peoples for the all-around effective support for their just struggle.

A document envisaging the further development of the cooperation between the Vietnamese People's Army and the People's Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea was signed during the visit. It emphasizes the need to strengthen in every possible way the fraternal friendship and combat unity between the SRV and the PRK.

IMPERIALISTS SUPPORT DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

LD140059 Moscow TASS in English 2055 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- The so-called "Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea", a puppet government formed on funds from abroad has neither territory nor population and so has absolutely no rights to speak on behalf of the Kampucheans, the newspaper IZVESTIYA writes in an international commentary published today.

Presenting this "government" as a certain alternative force, the newspaper writes, the enemies of the Kampuchean people thus grossly flout the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, interfere in the internal affairs of the Kampuchean people.

"Against the will of the Khmer people they are stubbornly trying to implant in Kampuchea the hated regime of bloody thugs, members of the Pol Pot gangs and all sort of renegades who betrayed the country at the time of trial."

"The backing by certain circles of all sort of reactionary elements in the 'Coalition Government'", the commentary says, "meets only the interests of imperialism and its allies who seek to weaken and split the Non-Aligned Movement."

The propaganda campaign stirred up around the so-called "Kampuchean question" and the puppet "government", the newspaper says, pursues the aim of exerting political and other pressure on countries of Indochina so as to change the situation that has formed in South-east Asia, the situation that is characterized by the intensification of the peaceful and constructive policy of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

"Giving up this short-sighted policy, ending the attempts at blackmail and pressure on states of Indochina would promote the working out of mutually acceptable solutions of problems of South-east Asia", IZVESTIYA writes in conclusion. "This was said many times from the United Nations rostrum and in statements of representatives of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao people's democratic and the People's Republic of Kampuchea. It is only the just taking into consideration of the interests of all states in the region , non-interference in their internal affairs by external forces, respect for territorial integrity and existing political realities that would lead to the establishment of the atmosphere of tranquility and security in the area."

AMITY SOCIETY BOARD MARKS ALBANIAN JUBILEE

PM131513 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Session of Society's Board"]

[Text] A session of the Soviet-Albanian Friendship Society Board devoted to the 37th anniversary of the proclamation of the People's Republic in Albania was held in Moscow 10 January.

DEMICHEV RECEIVES HUNGARIAN COUNTERPART

LD140516 Moscow in Hungarian to Hungary 1730 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Petr Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, has received Bela Kopsczi, Hungarian minister of education and culture. At the discussions, which took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere, they touched on the issues of further developing Soviet-Hungarian cultural relations. Sandor Rajnai, Hungarian ambassador, was also present at the meeting.

SOVIET-CZECH COMMITTEE ENDS MEETING IN BAKU

GF131528 Baku International Service in Azeri 1300 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] The permanent Soviet-Czech committee has recently completed its work in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan. The head of the Czech delegation, Jaroslav Machel, who is the deputy of the Czechoslovak Ministry of Electrotechnical Industry, said (?at the beginning) of the meeting that he is confident that the talks in Baku will contribute toward further improving the mutual useful relations between the workers of the electrotechnical industry of the two countries.

The meeting in Baku discussed specialization and [word indistinct] in electrotechnical production, matters related to work aimed at producing a series of electrical (?units) with [word indistinct] current of up to 500 kilowatts and other issues.

The Czechoslovak guests and the members of the Soviet delegation have visited Baku's electrotechnical factories and also acquainted themselves with historic sites in Baku.

PRAVDA'S LOSOTO VIEWS POLISH SITUATION

PM131429 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[Corrrespondent O. Losoto report: "Poland: The Beginning of the Year"]

[Text] Warsaw -- Poland has begun the new year, 1983, with working days. The newspapers, radio and television report conscientious work by shipbuilders, textile workers, steel workers and representatives of other sectors. The miners are working persistently. Last year they extracted 189.3 million tons of coal, considerably exceeding the 1981 results. Now they are striving to secure a new record.

At the A. Warski shipyard in Szczecin the construction of a ferry for a Soviet order has been completed. The collection of funds for building a memorial to those who died in the struggle for people's power continues. The "Polish Nightingales" -- a boys' choir from Poznan -- have returned from a successful foreign tour. The Warsaw subway builders are taking their "first steps...."

One could cite many such reports, which make up the living tissue of life in the country today. These reports, diverse in content, are evidence that positive changes are taking place in Poland. The situation in the country's economy is gradually improving. The number of enterprises and entire sectors of the national economy which are coping with the prescribed plans is growing. This is also promoted by the increasingly extensive cooperation between Poland and the Soviet Union and the other fraternal states and the assistance which they have given and continue to give to Poland.

The present picture of Poland, TRYBUNA LUDU writes, inspires hope. Just as we have done hitherto, the newspaper notes, we will stand on our own feet, despite the advisers in Washington who would like to utilize the difficult situation in our country for their own selfish purposes. We have true friends -- the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, which did not desert Poland in its hour of need.

The broad public in the republic greeted with satisfaction the statement by the participants in the Prague conference of the Warsaw Pact states that Socialist Poland can always count on the fraternal countries' moral, political and economic support.

Late last year the Polish Sejm approved the state plan for the country's economic and social development in 1983-1985. The main aim of this 3-year plan is to overcome the economic crisis and gradually restore equilibrium on the domestic market and in the state budget. It is envisaged that production of industrial output in 1983 will increase by 4 percent compared with last year, while national income will increase by more than 2 percent.

The plan gave rise to many commentaries in the Polish press. Their authors note that the national economy is embarking on a path of normal functioning and overcoming of the considerable difficulties which still exist. Whether this path is long or short depends today on concrete, practical activity in every sector of the national economy, at every place of work. At the same time it is noted that the resolution of the task of restoring market equilibrium will not be easy. At present inflation is a clear manifestation of the lack of such equilibrium. The government is elaborating an anti-inflation plan and a number of urgent measures for saving resources, cutting expenditure and restoring correct proportions between remuneration and the results of labor.

Alongside certain positive changes in the economy, another hopeful factor must be noted: The sociopolitcial atmosphere in labor collectives and in society as a whole has improved. You can see and feel this when you visit plants and factories and meet with workers. It is also confirmed by regular public opinion polls and also by the letters received by the newspapers, radio and television.

TRYBUNA LUDU, organ of the PZPR Central Committee, has a special section called: "They Told TRYBUNA." People of various professions share their observations and opinions on one issue or another in the newspaper.

Here are some remarks by TRYBUNA LUDU readers.

Jan Koza -- miner at the Siemianowice mine:

"I have no doubt that life in the country is moving toward normalization. Reports by the main statistical administration confirm that we are gradually beginning to feel the ground under our feet."

Marian Kostyla -- worker at the Polmo factory in Krosno:

"Tangible results can only be achieved by conscientious labor and in a calm atmosphere. An example of the stabilization of the situation is provided by my own enterprise, which achieved good production indicators last year."

Jan Zjenek -- railman from Malaszewicze station:

"Only an idiot can fail to see that life in the country is gradually returning to normal. Of course, everyone would like this process to be quicker. I am convinced we are on the right road. And that is not only my opinion, it is -- I can say with confidence -- the opinion of everyone who not only sees clearly the continuing manifestations of the crisis, but at the same time strives to lessen them through good work and the conscientious fulfillment of his duties."

The PZPR and the militancy which is being revived in its organizations are the guarantee of the processes which are developing and of the strengthening of socialism's gains on Polish soil. Of course, even today at many enterprises you may encounter weak party organizations and communists without initiative. No, not everyone has withstood the test set, the Polish party press notes. But today it can be said that the party's nucleus has passed a difficult test. An important stage in the PZPR's life which is helping to strengthen it organizationally and ideologically is the report campaign now in progress. This campaign has already reached the level of district [gmina] and city party organizations. The voivodship party conferences come next.

I remember a recent conversation at the Warsaw motor vehicle plant. My interlocutors were workers, engineers and party activists. They all noted the improvement in the climate in the collective. Primary party organizations are becoming more active.

"It still cannot be said that all the problems are behind us," B. Mazurek, secretary of a primary organization, believes, "but we know that their resolution depends first and formost on us communists. Hence the heightened exactingness toward party members. They must set an example in everything: from work to day-to-day conduct. This may seem elementary, but unfortunately in our country precisely what seemed self-evident has often been violated...."

The center for ideological education work attached to the plant's party committee gives the party organizations great assistance.

"Our aim," its leader S. Swalczynski says, "is to be as close as possible to people. The style of propaganda has changed recently. It has become considerably more flexible, intensive and militant, which is what it lacked before. The main thing is that now there is more concrete, businesslike work with people. The center coordinates studies in the Marxist-Leninist education system. We use various forms of study: for young communists, for the main bulk of party members and for the party aktiv. We issue bulletins. One -- 'Facts and Events' -- is of an ideological orientation and arms party members with concrete material for political talks. A second is an up-to-date news bulletin about current affairs at the plant and in the country. A third bulletin gives social and consumer information.."

The last 2 years taught the plant's communists much. They were stern lessons for them in the political struggle, class vigilance and ideological tempering.

"And we learned one more lesson in that period," I was told in the plant's party committee, "the lesson of real proletarian cohesion. By virtue of the nature of its production our enterprise has cooperative links with many suppliers, and when these threads were broken last year, we found ourselves in a very difficult situation.

"Production could have come to a standstill because of the shortage of components and materials. Our Soviet friends again came to our assistance. We say 'again,' because our plant owes its birth to the USSR's assistance and its specialists...."

Of course, many difficulties remain in economic and sociopolitical life. Time and tremendous efforts are needed to overcome them. The newspaper ZOLNIERZ VOLNOSCI, in an article headed "New Year, New Tasks," notes that overcoming the crisis will continue to be difficult. The ideological opponent has not given up his hostile operations and still counts on continuing the struggle against the socialist state.

"But all the difficulties we have to overcome and the actions of hostile forces against which we will struggle," the newspaper goes on to note, "all this can do nothing to shake our certainty of the correctness of our chosen path. But, knowing the difficulties and dangers which still await us, we also feel our strength and know our potential. We have also come to know our socialist allies even better. The time of trials has shown that we can always count on them, since their interests coincide entirely with ours."

Socialist Poland has entered the new year with hope and expectations, ready for persistent labor.

KOHL STATEMENT ON WARSAW PACT PROPOSALS NOTED

LD140039 Moscow TASS in English 2023 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Vienna January 13 TASS -- The Government of West Germany and its Western allies would carefully study the disarmament proposals put forward in the Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member-states, said Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany who arrived here for a brief visit. He was addressing here members of the public and political circles of Vienna.

The chancellor also came out in favor of "the policy of realistic East-West dialogue." He emphasised that as far as his government was concerned it would continue such a dialogue with the Soviet leadership.

At the same time the chancellor advocated the further strengthening of NATO, alleging that West Germany's membership of the alliance "promoted stronger peace."

FRG STATEMENT ON MISSILE LIMITATION ASSESSED

LD140925 Moscow TASS in English 0805 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 14 TASS -- At a time when the peoples are expecting from the West a meaningful answer to the USSR's proposals on the limitation of nuclear weapons, the newspaper PRAVDA writes today, "the statement which was made by the FRG Government the other day was in a strange discord. The FRG Government was trying to interpret the Soviet Union's proposal, that it retain after a reduction of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe as many missiles as are kept there by Britain and France, as a... 'striving for monopoly'."

"But what sort of Soviet monopoly can it be," the newspaper PRAVDA points out, "if Britain and France have ballistic missiles in Western Europe? But the latter countries are NATO members and neither French nor British military make secret of the purpose of such missiles. And all Governments of the FRG have always considered in their 'white papers' on military issues the British and French nuclear armaments to be a component part of the NATO's nuclear potential in Europe. Could they, really, forget about that in Bonn?"

"In addition it is known," PRAVDA continues, "that Britain and France are speedily building up and modernizing their nuclear means. Modernized Polaris missiles with six warheads instead of three are mounted on British submarines. In France single war head missiles are also mirved. This is what they call the Soviet 'missiles monopoly': But this false proposition is used to prove the need either to press ahead for the Soviet Union's unilateral disarmament, or, if the USSR rejects it, deploy new American missiles in Europe under the pretext of the USSR's alleged intransigence. This is, as a matter of fact, an expression of support for the U.S. 'zero option' which blocks the talks in Geneva".

"And the point at issue is, apparently, not only the intention to weaken the impact of the Soviet proposals by having recourse to such ploys," the newspaper writes. "Isn't it an expression of something bigger, of meeting the promises which were once given, as some Western agencies report, not to prevent the deployment of American Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in the FRG?"

The statement made in Bonn also mentions, the newspaper PRAVDA goes no to note, that the "USSR's new proposals" are allegedly "not the final say" and one can further hope for concessions from the Soviet side, which will make it possible in the long run to scrap all the Soviet medium-range missiles. This is an illusion. The West will never live to see any unilateral concessions from the Soviet Union. If the West wishes to reach agreement, this is possible only on the basis of equality and equal security. There is no other choice."

Our country, the newspaper PRAVDA stresses, has proposed a fair and truly optimum solution. Now it is for the USA and NATO to prove in action whether it wants or not a just agreement, whether they want that the Geneva talks be a success or deliberately lead things into a deadlock. Things should be called by their proper names.

VOGEL PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER U.S., USSR TRIPS

LD132130 Moscow TASS in English 2035 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Bonn January 13 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vitaliy Vinogradov reports:

Hans-Jochen Vogel, member of the Presidium of the Social Democratic Party of Germany and the Social Democratic candidate to the post of federal chancellor, has given a press conference in Bonn today to discuss his visits to the USSR, the United States and France and his conversations with the leaders of those countries. In Moscow Hans-Jochen Vogel was received by Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

"My visits took place at a time when fresh impetus had been given to discussions on disarmament," Hans-Jochen Vogel said. He noted in this context the new Soviet proposals on strengthening peace and curbing the race in nuclear-missile armaments, put forward by Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the celebration meeting in Moscow on December 21, 1982. Hans-Jochen Vogel stressed that these proposals "contain constructive elements." He said that the delegation he had headed had been given in Moscow clarifications of the Soviet position on the limitation and reduction of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

The Soviet Union stated its position on two major issues at the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles, Vogel continued, having declared its readiness to reduce the number of its missile systems and to seek a proper balance in missiles and planes. "My interlocutors in the Soviet capital said that the ball now was in the U.S. court," he added.

"We welcome any step towards an agreement which would do away with the existing missile systems and hamper new missile deployments. I will spare no effort to contribute towards the achievement of this goal," Hans-Jochen Vogel said.

He spoke in favour of the further extension of trade and economic relations between the USSR and West Germany and stressed that "it is in accord with the interests of the Federal Republic as well." According to him, the Soviet leaders during conversations with him "defined possible areas of the activisation of business cooperation." The Social Democratic leader denounced trade and economic sanctions and trade wars, which are known to be used by Washington to frustrate normal business contacts between the West and socialist countries. According to Hans-Jochen Vogel, these measures "do not contribute to the stabilization of the international situation. "That is why I spoke against these measures both in Washington and in Moscow," he said.

FRANCE'S CHEVENEMENT CITED ON USSR TIES

PM131107 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Contracts Will Be Fulfilled"]

[Text] Paris, 5 Jan -- Jean-Pierre Chevenement, French minister of state and minister for scientific research and industry [as published], has indicated France's interest in maintaining relations of good accord with the Soviet Union. In an interview with the monthly journal of the France-USSR Society, he gave his impressions of his recent visit to Moscow.

My talks in the Soviet Union, he said, were aimed at summing up the results of scientific and industrial cooperation between our countries. My contacts with Soviet leaders were serious and frank.

In this connection the minister confirmed the existence on the French side of the political will to develop trade and economic ties with the Soviet Union. This, he said, has been borne out by the stance adopted by France on the question of the Siberia-West Europe gas pipeline. Economic embargo is seldom a good means of settling international problems. We resisted outside pressure with whose aid attempts were made to foist the logic of economic boycott on us. We are keeping an attentive eye open to ensure that the contracts signed by French enterprises and, in particular, in connection with the building of the gas pipeline are fulfilled.

I believe, J. P. Chevenement said, that my trip enabled me to determine new spheres of cooperation with the Soviet Union, in particular in retooling existing industrial enterprises. This cooperation could be expanded in many spheres -- energy, electronics, ferrous metallurgy and the chemical industry and the agroindustrial complex.

Touching on the prospects for the development of scientific cooperation between the two countries, J.L. Chevenement pointed out that a new 10-year program for the intensification of scientific and technical cooperation is now being drafted. Broad coincidence of views has been achieved, he said. The minister drew particular attention to the joint Soviet-French space flight conducted last year which, in his opinion, opens up very promising prospects for scientific cooperation between France and the USSR.

MOSCOW WEEKLY VIEWS GREEK-NATO DIFFERENCES

PM121127 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 52, 24 Dec 82 pp 14-15

[N. Miroshnik dispatch: "Greece: At the Start of a New Path"]

[Text] Athens -- "National independence, territorial integrity, people's sovereignty and democracy, an independent economy and social development, cultural rebirth, the revival of the countryside, a radical improvement in living conditions in cities and rural localities, social justice and, finally, social liberation -- all these are our government's aims and determine the course which it will follow." It was with these words that Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou began his speech in Parliament on 22 November 1981 when presenting the program of the first Socialist Government in Greece's history.

No government designs its general program for a period of 1 year, but at least through to the next parliamentary election. The Greek Socialists went further. As A. Papandreou recently specified, the cabinet will need at least two terms in office, that is, not less than 8 years, in order to implement all the transformations outlined by his party in the political economic and social spheres.

But even 1 year makes it possible to draw some conclusions.

In the foreign policy sphere questions of relations with NATO, as well as the fate of the American military bases on Greek territory, have once again come to the forefront. These problems have not taken a back seat at all. The promises of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) to withdraw the country from the North Atlantic bloc and free it from the foreign military presence played a very important role in securing the voters' broad support for PASOK. All the practical actions of A. Papandreou's cabinet in this direction have invariably been at the center of public attention.

So far, however, there has not been very much action.

The start of the talks on the future of the American bases -- or rather, as the Greek leaders explained, on drawing up a schedule for their gradual removal from the country and the establishment of Athens control over their activity in the interim period -- has already been postponed several times.

Relations with NATO remain complex. In December 1981 the government declared that the agreement by which Greece returned to the North Atlantic Alliance's military organization had "to a considerable extent been suspended." But it did not explain subsequently just what this "suspension" entailed or what would happen next. Athens still makes withdrawal from NATO its ultimate goal, it is true. But at the same time, remaining in the bloc's military and political organizations, Greece has adopted a policy of full autonomy and independence in decisionmaking, as confirmed at the last NATO council session. Proceeding from national interests, the government refused, for example, to participate in Washington's provocative campaign against the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries in connection with the events in Poland. Explaining why his cabinet did not support the "sanctions" venture, A. Papandreou frankly declared: "This whole question was so flagrantly spurious and hypocritical that it was hard not to feel that you were participating in a cheap game."

Plainly "out of step" with the NATO leadership, Athens firmly and unswervingly supports the struggle of the Palestinians and other Arab peoples for freedom and independence. It is no coincidence that Greece is the only NATO country to have given a PLO mission full diplomatic status.

Unlike the leaders of the North Atlantic bloc, Athens evaluated as "a very positive step" Moscow's decision to cease the further deployment of medium-range missiles in the European part of the USSR and to reduce some of these arms.

Disagreements with the bloc partners have sometimes assumed the nature of an open challenge, as happened recently. The NATO Headquarters had announced beforehand that large-scale exercises by the bloc's so-called "multinational mobile force" would take place in Greece over the course of almost 1 month from 10 November. But suddenly, only a few days before the start of the maneuvers, which were code named APEX Express-82, Athens refused to participate in them and prohibited them from being held on its territory. The Greek Government declared that they would have harmed the country's interests and security.

The Papandreou Government's decision was approved by democratic forces and the broad public. At the same time, Kharilaos Florakis, general secretary of the Greek Communist Party [KKE] Central Committee, pointed out, the cabinet's actions have not yet gone beyond a protest at NATO's hostile encroachments and are limited to dividing NATO maneuvers up into "good" ones, in which Greece participates, and "bad" ones, which it repudiates.

Indeed, despite all the disagreements over specific questions and the Greek premier's repeated statements that NATO has played an antidemocratic, reactionary role in the country's history, Greece continues to participate in joint military exercises. Even when their aims clearly do not coincide with the government's position. Officials and military specialists still attend all North Atlantic bloc conferences and staff meetings. To judge from certain statements which the Greek leaders have made in recent months on various occasions and to various audiences, Athens can hardly be expected to withdraw from NATO's military organization in the very near future. As K. Florakis pointed out, the problem of relations with the bloc is also a problem of control over the Aegean Sea (the regularization of relations between Greece and Turkey -- N.M.).

Greek-American talks on the fate of the U.S. military bases have been going on since October. If they end inconclusively, the bases are to be removed. But, as a spokesman for the government declared, it will not take "unilateral" action. The time for completing the talks will be announced after a preliminary discussion between the delegations.

The U.S. military installations in Greece -- four large ones and several dozen auxiliary ones -- have been functioning for approximately 30 years. Their presence is governed by 100 bilateral accords. The first stage of the talks has now been completed, during which the sides expounded their positions to each other. Since the delegations have their meetings behind closed doors, it is hard to say whether any results have been achieved yet.

It is known, however, that at the time of the preparations for the talks Washington was pressuring the Greek leadership and trying to prompt it to abandon the plans for axing the American military bases in such a strategically important region.

Washington is not losing hope of getting its own way. In particular, Under Secretary of Defense F. Ikle has voiced confidence in an outcome favorable to the United States. And a State Department spokesman has declared that long-term and effective relations between the two countries in the defense sphere, including the granting of corresponding privileges to the United States, serve mutual interests.

The Greek prime minister, to judge from his recent statements, thinks otherwise. Foreign bases, A. Papandreou declared, restrict the country's national sovereignty and independence. At the same time, certain statements by the Greek leadership and its reluctance to make public the specific details of Athens' position at the talks disturb democratic public opinion. It fears that the American military installations may remain a lot longer in the land of hellas. The KKE Central Committee general secretary has urged a discussion of this question in Parliament.

The overwhelming majority of the people have a definite opinion on this problem. You only have to recall the numerous demonstrations demanding the removal of the bases. Hundreds of thousands of Greeks have participated in the demonstrations. Right from the start the idea of creating a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans received broad support and was also supported by the government. The first practical steps are being taken. During Greek Premier A. Papandreou's visits to Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Romania it was decided to activate efforts in this direction and convene a summit meeting of the leaders of the Balkan states to discuss the question of a nuclear-free zone. In the opinion of Greek observers, such a meeting could take place in approximately 18 months' time.

The October elections to local organs of power were an important test of the government's popularity. They made it possible to determine more or less accurately how the voters evaluate the actions of A. Papandreou's cabinet and the course along which it is leading the country. The impressive victory of the left, democratic forces and, at the same time, one more crushing defeat for the right showed that the people still widely support the policy of change which they advocated in the parliamentary election a year ago.

As was pointed out at the recent 11th KKE Congress, there is now a complex and contradictory situation in the country, characterized by definite democratic development and by new potential in the struggle for such changes. It is complex because the situation could change either way. Just which way depends on the strength of the people's movement. The leftward shift in the sentiments of the voters and the Communists' success in the last elections confirm that Greece needs still more extensive changes.

CATALAN CP LEADER ASSESSES PCE ELECTION SHOWING

PM1111109 Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 1, 1-7 Jan 83 Signed to Press 29 Dec 82 p 7

[Article by Pedro Ardiaca, chairman of the Communist Party of Catalonia, reprinted from Barcelona's AVANT: "The Parliamentary Elections in Spain and the Crisis of 'Eurocommunism'"]

[Text] The Spanish press, including the communist press, continues to discuss the situation in which the Spanish Communist Party [PCE] found itself after the early general election held in October. We reprint below an article published in the central organ of the Communist Party of Catalonia.

A new democratic process began in Spain in 1977 after 38 years of domination by the fascist dictatorship, and this led to major political changes in the country. These changes were possible thanks to the protracted, staunch struggle by the working class and the peoples living in Spain -- a struggle which cost considerable sacrifices. However, the transitional period which then began was characterized by the lack of unity of leftwing forces, which enabled the big bourgeoisie to keep economic and political power in its own hands and leave the state apparatus inviolate.

In the subsequent 5 years the big bourgeoisie was once again able to considerably restrict political freedoms and national autonomy in different regions of Spain and curtail the trade union rights it had been forced to grant in the course of the mass struggle in the first few years after Franco's death. As the economic crisis intensified the big bourgeoisie resorted with increasing frequency to dismissing workers. Spain now has 2 million unemployed, half of whom receive no unemployment benefit.

In the political sphere the big bourgeoisie provoked changes in the ruling clique. Under pressure from the big bourgeoisie former Prime Minister Calvo Sotelo launched Spain's accelerated entry into NATO. But even that was not enough. It decided to put a man with still more aggressive aspirations at the head of the government. Fraga Iribarne was regarded as the most suitable figure for this. Calvo Sotelo dissolved Parliament and set elections for 28 October 1982.

The election results went against the big bourgeoisie's intentions. The majority voted for the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE), which received 201 of the 350 seats in the Chamber of Deputies, while Fraga Iribarne's Popular Alliance, which formerly had 9 seats, received 104 this time. The former ruling party -- the Union of the Democratic Center (UCD) -- suffered a crushing defeat, winning only 14 seats. The PCE and the Unified Socialist Party of Catalonia (PSUC -- an independent party forming part of the PCE -- editor) received only 4 deputies' mandates instead of the 23 they formerly had.

What Caused These Election Results?

In the course of many years of staunch struggle the restoration of democracy in Spain was the central task for all anti-Francoists. Many of them regarded this as the sole, exclusive task.

Indeed, from the Communists' viewpoint, the gaining of democratic freedoms is absolutely necessary to the working class and the people's masses so that they can create their own parties, trade unions and citizens' associations and fight for the satisfaction of their urgent demands. But at the same time the gaining of political freedoms is not an exclusive task, but only the first stage in a more complex process with much broader prospects. We assert that this process includes the struggle for democracy and at the same time the struggle for socialism.

This is the approach contained in the program theses of the Ninth PCE Congress and in the program adopted by the Fourth PSUC Congress.

As is known, at the Fifth PSUC Congress in January 1981 the majority of delegates condemned the harmful ideas introduced to the party's ranks by "Eurocommunism," proposing the renunciation of the use of that term, and at the same time they tried self-critically to rectify erroneous tenets in the policy of the PSUC and the PCE.

The theses of the fifth congress noted the temporary, partial coincidence of the views of the Communists and the ruling circles in power resulting from the attempts to extreme rightwing forces to reverse the development of events and carry out a coup d'etat. In this connection it was noted that the coincidence of views could only be a "unity inevitably fraught with conflict, in which each participating social class or political force will strive to save face."

But the PCE leadership took another path. From the time of the party's legalization it began to make one fundamental concession after another to the bourgeoisie, guided exclusively by the desire to create a "good impression" of itself in their eyes. The PCE leadership entertained the hope of eventually receiving an invitation to participate in a government of "unity."

This stance meant that instead of fighting for the unity of leftwing forces and the deepening of democracy, the PCE leadership began criticizing the PSOE, basically for refusing to play into the hands of the reactionary government, keeping its distance and not seeking to join the government, but trying to play the part of a real political alternative.

In the international arena the PCE leadership came out with unsubstantiated criticism of the Communist Parties of France and Portugal and began openly playing into the hands of "Eurocommunist" tendencies in the Italian Communist Party, the Portuguese socialist leader and European social democracy in general. To crown it all there were Carrillo's sharp attacks on the socialist countries.

That, in general terms, is the path traveled by the PCE over the last 5 years. Now reaction would be quite prepared to accept that party into its government.

Crisis in the Communist Party

Deviation from tried and tested Marxism-Leninist positions cannot take place with impunity. Tens of thousands of Communists and veterans of the Civil War and the underground gradually left the party. The remaining PCE members -- the minority, remaining in its ranks -- lost their militancy and enthusiasm and sank into an oppressive atmosphere of confusion where careerists and demagogues, bogged down in the struggle for position and seeking their own advantage in the party, flourish. Finally Carrillo himself was removed, being forced to resign from the post of secretary general of the party.

Through its activity during the years of the Civil War and the underground the PCE earned respect and prestige among Communists and among all the world's progressive people. That party, for which 2 million people voted 3 years ago and which was on the way up, barely collected 800,000 votes in October 1982, including votes cast for the PSUC. The majority of voters, including many PCE members, joined with the millions of workers, peasants, representatives of the intelligentsia, small industrialists and merchants who preferred to vote for the leftwing forces marching with the PSOE. They voted for the Socialists because in their opinion that party most consistently and clearly advocated the continuation and deepening of the democratic process in Spain.

The voters marked election day as a major people's festival. Ordinary people answered correspondents' questions with hope: "Now there will be an end to unemployment," "Now our country will leave NATO," "Now people will be punished for the attempted coup."

Grounds for Optimism

In April 1982 more than 7,000 PSUC members expelled from the party on Carrillo's orders held their sixth congress, which was at the same time the founding congress of the Communist Party of Catalonia. The Central Committee, examining the election results, welcomed the Socialists' victory as a victory over imperialism and reaction. As we stated during the election campaign, Communists will unconditionally support any measures by the new government which are aimed at developing and deepening democracy, improving the people's living conditions and strengthening world peace. Of course, we will take account of objective difficulties in the country's public life. But we will criticize from principled standpoints any inconsistency or any departures from the new government's election promises.

The Communist Party of Catalonia will continue its activity to create a major communist party, true to the principles of Marxism-Leninism, in Catalonia. We will do everything to promote the resurrection of the true PCE together with all who find it harder every day to be Communists within the ranks of the PCE or the PSUC; with all who were recently expelled from those parties for the reluctance to be "Eurocommunists"; and with all who have long since left those parties but consider themselves Communists.

Acting together, we will create the Communist Party which the working class and the peoples living in Spain need.

SOLUTION FOR CYPRUS PROBLEM SEEN IN UN RESOLUTIONS

NC131947 Moscow in Greek to Cyprus 1800 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] The year 1982 has passed into history, 1983 has started. Yet for the people of Cyprus, for whom fate had many hardships in store, their national problem remains unsolved. In the New Year message to the Cyprus people President of the Cyprus Republic Kiprianou stressed that the road for a just and certain solution of the Cyprus issue should be sought in the UN resolutions on the Cyprus problem.

We think, our commentator writes, that all who wish the Cyprus issue settled will agree with President Kiprianou's opinion. The settlement should be such as to correspond to the vital interests of the Cyprus people. It is well known that the UN Security Council and General Assembly have passed many resolutions defining the basis for the political solution of the Cyprus problem. In this connection we should single out Resolution 3212 of 1 November 1974 through which the UN General Assembly asked all nations to respect the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, and nonaligned policy of the Cyprus Republic. The General Assembly reaffirmed this resolution in following sessions. However, UN resolutions expressing the will of the international community have so far not been implemented as a result of resistance by Western reactionary circles. The Soviet Union has played an active role in elaborating and passing the UN resolutions on Cyprus. Our country has made serious proposals which show the true road for the settlement of the Cyprus problem.

Already in August 1974 the Soviet Government stressed that the Cyprus problem could not be solved through military force or through the policy of diktats by imperialist circles. The Soviet Union has proposed that -- within the framework of the United Nations -- a representative international conference be held for the solution of the external aspect of the Cyprus issue. As is well known, President Spiros Kiprianou, in his speech during his recent visit to Moscow, said, we accepted from the outset the Soviet proposal to hold an international conference on the Cyprus problem.

The Soviet initative has been supported by the socialist countries, Greece and other states. However, the leading NATO countries have received it negatively. It is these countries which have aimed their efforts not at the just settlement of the Cyprus problem but at safeguarding the de facto existing partition of the island, and at achieving the elimination of the Cyprus state's independence.

The Soviet Union, our commentator goes on to write, has been a constant follower of the peaceful and just settlement of the Cyprus problem, taking into consideration the interests of all the Cypriot people, Greeks and Turks, and the complete implementation of UN resolutions on the Cyprus problem.

At the last UN General Assembly meeting which examined the Cyprus issue, the Soviet Union's representative stated: The Soviet Union steadfastly and consistently supports the preservation of the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity of the Cyprus Republic and supports its nonaligned policy. My country, the Soviet representative then said, supports such a settlement that will guarantee the democratization of the island and the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops from its soil. The Soviet Union has always been a follower of the peaceful solution of the Cyprus problem by the Cypriots themselves. In this connection, the Soviet Union's representative stressed in his speech that we consider it absolutely necessary to put an end to all foreign intervention in Cyprus' internal affairs, to the policy of imposing plans and solutions on the Cypriot people, worked out behind their backs and contrary to their interests.

The Soviet Union considers it of great significance that the well-known resolutions on Cyprus be implemented unconditionally and, on its part, it is ready to contribute to the settlement of the Cyprus problem in the interest of the Cypriot people, in the interest of security in the eastern Mediterranean, and in the interest of international detente.

This is the Soviet country's position on the Cyprus problem. This position is crystal-clear and honest. The Soviet Union is striving so that the UN organization may play an active and determinative role in the achievement of a just and viable solution of the Cyprus problem and the preservation of the Cyprus Republic as a sovereign, independent and territorially integral state as provided by the UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions. The duty of all states that are represented in this international organization is at last to achieve the solution of the Cyprus problem on a stable and just basis. The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have shown in practice that they have been consistent and intransigent followers of such a solution for the Cyprus problem, concludes our commentator.

'ARAFAT, PLO DELEGATION'S ACTIVITIES CONTINUE

Communique Issued

LD131510 Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 13 Jan 83

["Soviet-Palestinian Communique" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- A delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) headed by the Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat stayed in the Soviet Union on an official business visit on January 11-13, 1983.

Talks between General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Boris Ponomarev and Yasir 'Arafat, Chairman of the National Council of Palestine Khalid al-Fahum, Members of the PLO Executive Committee Faruq Qaddumi, Yasir 'Abd ar-Rabbuh and Ahmed al-Yamani passed in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality and mutual understanding.

An in-depth exchange of views was held on the situation in the Middle East, on ways of achieving genuine peace in that area and the just settlement of the Palestinian problem in the context of an all-embracing Middle East settlement.

The Soviet leaders expressed their admiration of the heroism and selflessness of the fighting men of the Palestine Liberation Organisation displayed in the struggle against the Israeli aggression in Lebanon. The Palestinian patriots, all those who arms in hand defended Lebanon and West Beirut, have filled one of the most vivid pages in the history of the Arab national-liberation movement.

Thanks to the staunchness and courage of the Palestinian fighting men and their allies the prime aim of the Israeli aggressors and their American patrons was frustrated -- to destroy the PLO, to drown in blood the struggle by the Palestinian people for their freedom and independence and thereby to close forever the Palestinian question. The just cause of the Palestinians now has growing support in the world and the Palestine Liberation Organisation is enjoying ever greater respect and prestige.

The participants in the talks sharply condemned Israel's barbarous aggression in Lebanon, its expansionist policy of conquest in respect of the Palestinian and other Arab peoples. With the help of rude pressure and military blackmail Israel and the United States are trying to impose on Lebanon such terms of separate peace that would actually consolidate the results of Israel's bandit attack on that Arab state.

Having wrathfully branded the crimes of the Israeli aggressor on Lebanese soil the sides noted that the acts of genocide and vandalism committed by it, in particular the massacre staged by it in the Sabra and Shatila Palestinian camps, the imprisonment of thousands of Lebanese and Palestinians in camps similar to the Nazi ones, the refusal to treat them as prisoners of war, stand in the same rank with the war crimes of the Fascists during the years of the Second World War.

The sides stressed that Israel's terror and violence on the occupied West Bank of the Jordan, in the eastern part of Jerusalem, in the Gaza Strip and other Arab territories, the expulsion of the native population from Palestinian lands and the establishment of Israeli settlements there, the defiling of holy places, the undermining of economy and national culture, the holding in prison of thousands of peaceful citizens are in crying contradiction with generally recognised norms of international law, the Charter and decisions of the United Nations Organisation.

The sides hold that responsibility for these crimes by Israel is shared by the United States of America which arms and finances the aggressor, ensures political cover for Tel Aviv and thereby pushes it to new anti-Arab actions. Israel's aggression in Lebanon is a direct result of the American-Israeli accord on "strategic cooperation". Using it, the United States is expanding its military presence in the Middle East and interfering in the internal affairs of Arab countries.

The Soviet Union and the Palestine Liberation Organisation demand an end to the Israeli aggression in Lebanon, the speediest withdrawal of Israel's troops from the entire territory of Lebanon in accordance with the decisions of the United Nations Security Council. They declared for a normalisation of the situation in that country on the basis of ensuring its unity, territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty.

Having confirmed their negative attitude to separate deals, which the United States and its ilk are trying to impose on the Arab countries and peoples, the sides assessed the recent American plan as being directed at preventing the creation of a Palestinian state and removing the PLO from participation in the Middle East settlement. They stated that they will resolutely oppose attempts to replace an all-embracing just settlement with separate deals of the Camp David type suiting the aggressor and on its terms.

Yasir 'Arafat informed the Soviet leaders about the main directions of the political activity of the PLO at the present stage. He stressed that the PLO will continue by all means to press for a just all-embracing settlement. He confirmed that no one has the right to speak on behalf of the Palestinian people except its sole lawful representative in the person of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Yasir 'Arafat also noted that the PLO comes out for the establishment of relations of confederation on the basis of voluntarity between the independent Palestinian state after its creation and Jordan. The Soviet side showed an attitude of understanding to this position of the PLO leadership.

The Soviet Union and the PLO confirmed resolve to continue the struggle for the attainment of an all-embracing Middle East settlement that should provide for the full and unconditional withdrawal of Israel's troops from all Arab, including Palestinian, territories, among them the eastern part of Jerusalem, occupied by it from 1967, and the implementation by the Arab people of Palestine of its inalienable national rights, including the right of self-determination and the creation of its own independent state, and also the right of Palestinians to return to their homes in accordance with existing United Nations decisions. The sides expressed conviction that a Middle East settlement is unattainable without such a solution of the Palestinian problem, while this problem is insolvable without the participation of the PLO, the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian people. The Palestinian side stated its support of all United Nation's decisions on the question of Palestine.

In the opinion of the sides a practical road to the attainment of a true settlement would be opened by the convocation of an international conference on the Middle East. It goes without saying that the Palestine Liberation Organisation should be an indispensable and equal participant in such a conference along with other interested sides.

The sides noted with satisfaction the factual identity of the Soviet Union's proposals on the Middle East settlement with the plan of such a settlement that was approved by the all-Arab conference in Fes. Thereby a real possibility has been created for coordinated actions by all who come out for the attainment of a just peace in that area.

The sides were unanimous that the present situation in the Middle East demands as never before the cohesion and unity of action of all Arabs. The efforts made by the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Syria, progressive and patriotic forces to rally the Arab world to repulse the Israeli aggression and intrigues of imperialism, to defend the vital interests of the Arab peoples were highly appraised from the Soviet side.

It was stated from the Soviet side that the USSR will further firmly support the struggle of the Palestinian people for the implementation of its inalienable national rights, for the establishment of a just peace in the Middle East.

On behalf of the Palestinian people and the PLO leadership Yasir 'Arafat expressed deep gratitude to the Soviet Union for its unselfish support which is an important factor in the struggle by the Palestinian patriots against the Israeli aggressors. The Palestine Liberation Organisation will further strengthen friendship and cooperation with the USSR and other countries of the socialist community.

When the overall international situation was discussed Yasir 'Arafat stated support for the Soviet initiatives directed at strengthening peace, the relaxation of international tension and disarmament contained in the recent speeches by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov and also the proposals set forth in the January 5, 1983 Political Declaration of Warsaw Treaty member states at the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee in Prague.

On making a study of Soviet-Palestinian relations the participants in the talks expressed satisfaction with their high level of development and confirmed the striving to further consolidate the friendly cooperation of the two sides.

It was agreed to continue regular contacts, exchange of views and coordination of actions at various levels on questions of mutual interest, first of all in connection with the situation in the Middle East and the Palestinian problem.

Further on Jordan-PLO Confederation

NC131530 Paris AFP in English 1520 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, Jan. 13 (AFP) -- Visiting Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat today said the Soviet Union is prepared to back the creation of a confederation between Jordan and a Palestinian state, support that is regarded as crucial for future talks on a Middle East settlement.

Mr. 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, told a press conference here that Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov had said Moscow would "approve anything that is in the interest of the Palestinian people."

This included "relations of confederation" between an independent Palestinian state and Jordan.

Support for the creation of an independent Palestinian state has been one of the cornerstones in Moscow's Middle East policy, but observers here said the Soviet Union had never publicly backed a confederation between Jordan and a Palestinian state.

The idea of a linkage between Jordan and a Palestinian entity in the Israeli-occupied West Bank was first put forward by U.S. President Ronald Reagan in a Middle East policy speech on September 1.

However, Mr. Reagan's peace plan did not forsee the creation of an independent Palestinian state.

Y. 'Arafat and Jordan's King Husayn recently have been discussing the formation of a possible joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to Middle East peace talks.

In his press conference here today, the PLO chief said he told Mr Andropov at their meeting yesterday that both he and King Husayn favoured a confederation of states to be established after a simultaneous referendum in Jordan and the future Palestinian state.

In other remarks, Mr 'Arafat called current negotiations between Israeli and Lebanese representatives on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon "worse" than the Camp David accords between Egypt and Israel.

In the present talks, he said, "the results were imposed even before the discussions began."

He also said he was certain the United States had no intention of working for an overall Middle East settlement because President Reagan's peace plan omitted mention of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

"Whoever wants a Middle East solution must first untangle the central problem" of the Palestinian rights, he said.

Beirut Evacuation, Soviet Weaponry

LD131408 Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS --'The things that happened in Sabra and Shatila are an indelible stain of shame on the United States", it was stated by Yasir 'Arafat. The head of the PLO delegation addressed a press conference here today. The United States, he went on, has not fulfilled the earlier reached agreement in accordance with which the fighting men of the Palestine resistance movement left West Beirut. As a result the Israeli military were given the possibility to storm the city and then to stage the bloody massacre in the Palestinian camps.

The chairman of the PLO Executive Committee said that the time would come for making public the documents recording in written form his talks with Philip Habib, who represented personally the President of the United States, and the rude violation of the guarantees that were given by Habib in the course of these talks.

At the time when these talks were being conducted, Yasir 'Arafat went on, the peaceful population of the western sector of Beirut was being subjected to increasingly fierce bombing from the air and shelling from the sea as a result of which thousands of innocent people lost their lives.

All this, 'Arafat recalled, resembled what happened during the war in Vietnam. And how many times the United States prevented the convocation of the Security Council or exercised its right of veto there. It appears that throughout the entire existence of the United Nations the United States never resorted to that method so frequently. And at the same time the American Congress voted for additional allocations for the Zionist state to the sum of 475 million dollars in addition to the earlier earmarked 3 billion dollars.

Yasir 'Arafat was asked to express his view in connection with the inventions of American-Israeli propaganda about the quality of Soviet arms that were used by the Palestinians in the struggle against the aggression. Did I fight using American arms, 'Arafat queried. And I fought against the strongest, as it is contended in Tel Aviv and Washington, army in the Middle East. As admitted by the U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger himself, that army has the most modern American military hardware, including such weapon systems that are prohibited by international law.

The interventionists turned Beirut into a range for testing the newest types of American weapons, Yasir 'Arafat went on.

And despite this the aggressor marked time for 80 days at the walls of West Beirut which we were defending and which we left only at the request of our Lebanese allies. I have tested in action the high effectivenes of Soviet arms, 'Arafat said.

Asked a question by a correspondent of the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN Yasir 'Arafat replied that Israel's present tactics at the talks with Lebanon is something worse even than the Camp David deal. With the full blessing of the United States Tel Aviv has set forth preliminary conditions of the talks even before entering them. Israel and its American patrons contended that the Israeli Army entered Lebanon to drive out the Palestinians. Well, the Palestinians have left, but the occupants are showing no sign of intent to leave Lebanon, Yasir 'Arafat went on.

How can the United States ignore so rudely the lawful right of a whole people to self-determination, Yasir 'Arafat queries. This is a sacred right. And does not Washington's rejection of this right of the almost five million strong Palestinian people contradict the American concept on the basis of which the American state was founded?

Yasir 'Arafat welcomed the anti-war demonstrations organised by democratic forces in Israel and noted that the PLO maintains contact with these forces coming out for a just solution of the Palestinian problem.

'Arafat Statement on Talks

LD131902 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen. On 13 January, a news conference was held in Moscow by the PLO delegation led by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. Here is a report by our correspondent Vladimir Bilyakov:

Many people have come to the Foreign Ministry press center. The visit of the PLO delegation to Moscow is the first visit in the wake of the violent events that took place in Lebanon in the summer of last year. This visit is arousing the attention of Soviet and foreign reporters. It goes without saying that the reporters are interested, above all, in the outcome of the Soviet-Palestinian summit talks. Yasir 'Arafat began the news conference by expressing appreciation for the results of the talks. Here is a short opening statement made by Yasir 'Arafat:

[Begin 'Arafat recording] I would like to open this news conference by talking about the positive talks between us and Comrade Andropov and the Soviet leadership in an atmosphere of comradeship and friendship which is dictated by the special relations which link us with the Soviet friends, and in which we found, as usual, a response from the Soviet comrades and from Comrade Andropov himself, to all the issues which were raised in the discussions. Comrade Andropov has affirmed the invariable and constant stance of the Soviet Union toward the question of our Palestinian people, and the continuous support for the struggle of our people on all levels, including the backing of our inalienable national rights, including our right to return to our home, our right to self-determination as a people, and our right to establish an independent Palestinian state.

I have expressed to Comrade Andropov and to the friendly Soviet delegation the gratitude of our people and the gratitude of the PLO Executive Committee for this friendly stance and for the support and backing which our people and our just cause are receiving from the people of the Soviet Union -- the various kinds of support and backing at all levels.

During these talks we discussed a large number of common issues, chiefly the events taking place in the Middle East region, including this war which was waged against us by the Israelis with all their military might fully backed by America, militarily, financially, politically and by means of propaganda, in order to inflict on the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples such huge civilian losses in men and property, and commit these great crimes, chiefly the slaughters at Sabra and Shatila.

I can conclude this statement by saying that these talks took place in an atmosphere of comradeship and friendship, and their outcome, as far as we are concerned, were positive, fruitful and constructive. In the name of the PLO I have expressed our gratitude. Here, I repeat this gratitude to the people of the Soviet Union for their stance toward our people and toward our revolution during this war which was waged in Lebanon and in Beirut against both the Lebanese and the Palestinian peoples. [end recording]

Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, then answered questions put to him by Soviet and foreign reporters. Yasir 'Arafat dealt with ways of establishing peace in the Middle East and of solving the Palestinian issue by peaceful means. He said the following:

[Begin 'Arafat recording] After the war in Lebanon and the epic of Beirut, the Arabs met at the 12th Arab summit in Fes -- the second summit to be held in Fes -- and presented to the world the Arab peace plan which is considered from the Arab point of view and which was unanimously approved by all the Arabs as the ideal way of reaching a just, comprehensive and durable solution in the Middle East. The seven-member committee was then set up. This committee visited the United States, France, the Soviet Union and China. When the committee came to the Soviet Union it met with a great welcome. It found that the initiative of Comrade Brezhnev for a solution in the Middle East region conforms with the Arab peace plan. [end recording]

'Arafat Meets With Arab Ambassadors

JN131728 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Late yesterday evening, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with Arab ambassadors in Moscow and discussed the current developments in the Arab region in light of the talks held by the Arab seven-member committee. Brother Abu 'Ammar briefed the Arab ambassadors on his talks with the Soviet side.

The meeting was attended by Brother Abuy al-Lutuf [Faruq Qaddumi] and Brother Khalid al-Fahum.

'Arafat, Delegation Depart

LD131550 Moscow TASS in English 1318 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- A PLO delegation led by Yasir 'Arafat today left the Soviet Union. The delegation stayed in the Soviet Union on an official working visit.

U.S. PROTESTS OF SYRIAN AIR DEFENSE MOVES VIEWED

LD140136 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1910 GMT 12 Jan 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] We have already reported Israel's militaristic preparations not far from the Syrian borders. Their aim is to create a pretext to attack this country and to distract the attention of the world public from the problem of the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanese territory. Western mass information media and primarily U.S. media, whipping up the atmosphere of hysteria around Syria, are overemphasizing in every way the question of Syria strengthening its anti-air defenses.

As the Cairo paper AL-AHRAM writes today, this campaign has the aim of moving such urgent problems in the region as the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon and the search for ways of reaching a settlement in the Near East into the background. In what way, the paper continues, can a country, part of whose territory is under Israeli occupation -- it is referring to the Golan Heights -- threaten the peace of the region by deploying air defense means on its own territory. Similar legitimate questions are being asked today by other Arab journalists and politicians.

Thus Sulayman Franjiyah, former president of Lebanon, stated in this connection: In protesting against the plans to modernize the Syrian air defense systems, the U.S. has apparently forgotten that none other than Washington provided the Israeli military with the most modern means of mass annihilation. Tel Aviv in its turn, Franjiyah said, brought down on the head of peaceful Lebanon these U.S. missiles and shells -- pellet, cluster and phosphorous -- and turned dozens of Lebanese towns and villages into ruins.

IRAQI PRAISES SOCIALIST STATES' MIDEAST STAND

LD130450 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 12 Jan 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program, written by A. Timoshkin]

[Text] Baghdad has praised the stance of the socialist states, members of the Warsaw Pact, toward the Iranian-Iraqi armed dispute. In his statement, Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi pointed to the great importance of the call made by the socialist states to halt the Iranian-Iraqi dispute as soon as possible and to settle it politically. Sa'dun Hammadi said this reflects the striving of the socialist states for peace in the Middle East. He said the Iraqi Government greatly appreciates the steps taken by these states to peacefully solve the dispute with Iran.

This stance of the socialist states stems from all their policies in the Middle East, and the aim of such policies is to help the peoples of the region by all means to protect their national rights and their vital interests against the aggressive onslaughts of imperialism and Zionism. It is this very force that benefits from the armed dispute that has been going on for a long time between two Islamic states. Therefore, its flames continue to be rekindled by the U.S. imperialists and the Israeli aggressors, who are accustomed to fishing in troubled waters -- the waters of tension in the Middle East.

As for the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, they have always considered and continue to consider the Iranian-Iraqi dispute as meaningless from the point of view of the national interests of the two countries, but very beneficial to imperialism, which is dreaming of retrieving its positions in the Middle East.

IRAQI ENVOY HOSTS ARMED FORCES DAY RECEPTION

PM121459 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Jan 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "To Mark Army Anniversary"]

[Text] On 6 January F.S. Al-'Iazzawi, Iraqi ambassador to the Soviet Union, held a reception to mark the anniversary of the Iraqi Armed Forces.

The reception was attended by Mar Avn A.N. Yefimov and generals, admirals and officers of the Soviet Army and Navy.

DELEGATION OF USSR MUSLIMS VISITS JORDAN, SYRIA

GF131525 Baku International Service in Azeri 1300 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] A delegation of the representatives of Soviet Muslims in the Caucasus, headed by Shaykn al-Islam Allahashukur Pashazade, the director of the religious department of the Muslims of Caucasus, has visited Jordan. The delegation later visited Syria. The guests are touring Syria and becoming acquainted with its historical cultural monuments. The representatives of local religious offices in various Syrian cities are holding talks with the visiting members of the Soviet delegation. In the course of these talks it is being established that the Soviet and Syrian peoples are trying to develop and broaden their friendly relations.

ZAMBIA ANNOUNCES CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT POSTS

LD132048 Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Lusaka January 13 TASS -- Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia announced today changes in the republic's government. Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia will also hold the post of finance minister. Kebby Musokotwane will head the Ministry for Youth Affairs and Sport, J. Mukando - the newly established Ministry of Cooperatives. Lameck Goma retains the post of foreign minister.

SOLVING NAMIBIA ISSUE OF 'PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE'

U.S. Pressure

LD130526 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 13 Jan 83

[From the "Africa as We See It" program; commentary by Yevgeniy Stepanov]

[Text] Angola's national radio reports that People's Republic of Angola and the People's Republic of China have decided to establish diplomatic relations. Our commentary has been prepared by Yevgeniy Stepanov.

The fact that the People's Republic of Angola has been recognized by yet another nation shows that the international influence and the political prestige of Angola keep growing and that it has been doing much to solve the key problems facing the African Continent. Together with the other Frontline states -- Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Tanzania -- Angola is the forefront of struggle for fully ridding Africa of the left-overs of colonialism and apartheid and normalizing the situation in the south of the continent.

Solving the Namibian problem is of paramount importance. The firm and consistent position of the Frontline states and the South West Africa Peoples Organization -- SWAPO -- which are pressing for granting Namibia genuine independence, is coming under bitter attacks by South Africa and its supporter, the United States. Both would like to keep Namibia under their control.

They use any means to damage the Frontline states. With Washington's approval South African troops occupy part of the Angolan territory and carry out subversive activities against Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana and other Frontline states. At the same time they are blackmailed economically and pressured politically by the United States and some other Western nations.

It is to the Frontline states first of all that Washington sends its emissaries with the so-called initiatives for Africa. During his recent visit U.S. Vice President George Bush tried to wrestle consent to the so-called Cuban linkage from the Frontline states. The African-American Institute, holding a conference in Harare, Zimbabwe, tried to get approval of this idea. The conference brought together more than 400 representatives of state and business interests, the U.S. news media and the church. They are trying to impose Washington's foreign policy recipes and ideological instructions on the independent African countries. But these maneuvers have been repelled again, this time by Premier Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe. He rejected the attempts of linking the solution of the Namibian problem with a pullout of Cuban troops from Angola, saying that the United States bears the main responsibility for the delay of a settlement of the Namibian problem. Mr Mugabe confirmed the resolve of the Frontline states to press for the withdrawal of South African troops from Namibia and for granting independence to that territory at an early date.

South Africa's Stance

PM131331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[Igor Tarutin "Commentator's Column": "Policy of Procrastination"]

[Text] This year's first session of the UN Council on Namibia has been held at UN Headquarters. Its participants voiced concern at the absence of any practical results in resolving this painful problem.

The implementation of the plan to grant independence to Namibia on the basis of Security Council Resolution 435 is coming up against the stubborn resistance of the Republic of South Africa. General Viljoen, commander in chief of the South African Armed Forces, recently declared that Pretoria does not intend to withdraw its troops from Namibia in 1983. His revelations confirmed that the apartheid regime is endeavoring to prevent a just settlement. Numerous facts attest to this.

The talks being held through the mediation of the "contact group" of five capitalist powers have reached an impasse. Pretoria blocked them by advancing a farfetched demand for the withdrawal of the Cuban contingent from Angola as a prerequisite for reaching agreement on Namibia. The recent direct meeting between South African and Angolan representatives also ended fruitlessly for the same reason. The apartheid regime sabotages any constructive initiatives from independent Africa and the South West African People's Organization.

The Republic of South Africa does not conceal its intention to implement a "decolonization" of Namibia under which its positions there will remain totally inviolate and power will pass into the hands of South African henchmen. The latter, it is true, have proved plainly "not up to" the task entrusted to them. They have not only completely discredited themselves in the eyes of the population but, on top of that, have quarreled among themselves. Realizing that such a "crew," even with one-sided advantages, is not capable of gaining the upper hand in elections under international control, Pretoria is procrastinating so that its henchmen can strengthen their positions.

The most reactionary circles in South Africa totally reject any form of granting independence to Namibia. Extremist sentiments have recently intensified. The ultraright parties are using this to pressure P. Botha's government, urging it to "have done" with the Namibian settlement and wreck it once again.

But Pretoria could not act so provocatively were it not for the assistance of its transatlantic patrons. The maintenance of the status quo in Namibia fully suits certain circles in the West, primarily the multinational corporations which have established control over that country's very rich natural resources. It is precisely the support of the forces of imperialism, chiefly American imperialism, that enables the racists to continue the occupation of Namibia, ignoring the will of the international community.

U.S. 'CONCERN' OVER SOVIET SA-3S IN CUBA 'MADNESS'

LD122312 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] The State Department said on Tuesday that Soviet arms deliveries to Cuba go far beyond its legitimate defense needs and that they are a major U.S. concern. We bring you a comment by our observer Igor Dmitriyev:

From what the State Department said one would imagine that Cuba is getting intercontinental ballistic missiles, strategic bombers or missile-firing nuclear submarines. Instead, a UPI report from Washington quotes the State Department as saying that Cuba has received a number of SA-3 surface-to-air missiles which has been spotted there since the early seventies. Well, any expert knows that surface-to-air missiles cannot be used otherwise but for defense. Living in the shadow of the United States, which leads the world in military spending with a budget of well over $200 billion, is quite an experience. All the more so since Cuba has been a victim of an invasion organized by the United States. In addition, there is an American military base in Guantanamo on Cuban soil.

When the United States sets up a new military command whose sphere of operations covers 19 nations of Asia and Africa, the State Department has no time or wish to discuss whether such an arbitrary action is a cause for concern for millions of people who live there. All we hear from Washington is that that's the way it should be. But when they spot surface-to-air missiles in Cuba, State Department officials seriously declare it's a major U.S. concern. Arrogance and cynicism are too mild in this case. The proper word is yet to be invented.

Speaking of concern, a real threat to American security is not Cuba or any other nation. It's an unprecedented military buildup, spearheaded by the Pentagon and the administration. Hundreds of billions of dollars to be spent in the coming years on various arms, strategic nuclear weapons included, will not add to American security; rather, this madness is going to aggravate the international situation and make arms control extremely difficult, if possible. Falling off a cliff of nuclear weapons is by far a greater threat to American security (?and more) than 10-year-old surface-to-air missiles stationed 90 miles off the American coast. [sentence as received]

NOVOYE VREMYA INTERVIEWS NICARAGUA'S WHELLOCK

PM131031 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 2, 7 Jan 83 pp 8-9

[Interview with member of the Sandinist National Liberation Front National Directorate Political Commission and Nicaraguan Minister of Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform Jaime Whellock Roman by NOVOYE VREMYA correspondent A. Baryshev: "Nicaragua: People on the Alert:"; place, date not specified; first paragraph is NOVOYE VREMYA introduction]

[Text] The Nicaraguan delegation at the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR was headed by Jaime Whellock Roman, member of the Sandinist National Liberation Front National Directorate Political Commission and minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform. Before departing for home he received NOVOYE VREMYA correspondent A. Baryshev and answered his questions.

[Question] What is the situation now like on Nicaragua's border with Honduras?

[Answer] After we inflicted military defeat on Somoza's dictatorship in July 1979, a large part of his army moved to Honduras. The former Somozaist National Guards (around 5,000 men) were accepted as refugees there. The Honduran Government assured us that the soldiers of the routed army would not be allowed to engage in any counter-revolutionary anti-Nicaraguan activity.

That was the situation before the Reagan administration began literally from the first days of its appearance in the White House to prepare plans to overthrow the revolutionary Sandinist government in our country. Washington is trying to stifle Nicaragua with an economic blockade and is adopting discriminatory financial measures against it. At the diplomatic level attempts are being made to slander Nicaragua by portraying it as an aggressor.

However, the Reagan administration is placing the main emphasis on employing military methods. A military plan has now been formulated against us.

They want to use the former Somozaist National Guards entrenched in Honduras as the main force for an invasion of our country. Washington has already allocated $20 million in order to knock together large armed formations made up of the former guards and to equip them with weapons. The intention is to capture certain of our cities, to seize the northern regions of the country along the Atlantic coast and to institute a counterrevolutionary "provisional government" there.

At the same time a line is being pursued on implementing secret operations inside Nicaragua. There is sabotage, the organization of reactionary groups inside the country and the mounting of slander campaigns against the revolution's leaders.

Relatively large counterrevolutionary gangs knocked together out of former Somozaist soldiers or else simply criminals and armed to the teeth by the U.S. Government are already frequently penetrating Nicaraguan territory, attacking our military posts on the border and border population centers, causing serious damage to the civilian population and disorganizing economic life in the border zones. The situation is becoming very dangerous. Because of the intensification of hostile actions the Nicaraguan Government recently introduced martial law in these regions and is taking emergency measures to rebuff the aggressor.

It is worth noting that the Honduran Army is the middleman through which American weapons reach the anti-Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary gangs. The Reagan administration is using Honduras in its aggressive policy against both Nicaragua and the Salvadoran patriots.

[Question] What measures is the Sandinist government taking to defuse the situation on the border with Honduras?

[Answer] First of all we are exposing the aggressive U.S. course and demanding that the Reagan administration cease its attempts to destabilize the situation in our country. We are seeking to inform all countries of the world and the United Nations of our exposure of the U.S. role.

At the same time we have called on the Honduran Government to revive in the relations between our countries the principles of peaceful coexistence and of mutual respect for sovereignty and in general all the principles on which the UN Charter and the agreements we have signed with Honduras through the mediation of the OAS are based. We issued this appeal to the Honduran Government several months ago. However, so far there has been no response to it, even though there are circles in Honduras -- including among the military -- that disagree with the transformation of their country into an instrument for pursuing the U.S. hegemonist course. So far as we know, President Suazo of Honduras is at least full of good intentions to solve the problem of tension on our borders in the way that is customary between civilized peoples -- through dialogue and debate. However, it looks as though the situation in Honduras -- both political and military -- is largely controlled by a small group of officers that has very strong positions in the organs of power and the direct blessing of the United States.

[Question] The threat of war is hanging over Central America because of Washington's aggressive course.

What, in your view, should be done to prevent such a dangerous development of events?

[Answer] The Reagan administration's ideology is determined by a scheme according to which the desire for social change in Central America and other parts of the world where poverty, exploitation and economic dependence are increasing is based not on the objectively ripening need for such change but on an "international conspiracy" that is supposedly directed by Moscow.

Attempts are made to use this utterly false claim to conceal the precise opposite -- the imperialist conspiracy against our peoples. Now that we are seeking the path of gaining freedom for ourselves, the path of progress, and struggling for sovereignty and independence the United States, which oppressed us and exploited our peoples, feels that all this represents a danger to its dominance. It is seeking to prevent and suppress these processes by violent, criminal means.

Therefore we believe that it is hard to expect positive changes in the situation to take place on the initiative of the Reagan administration itself. They may occur as a result of joint action by all states, especially within the UN framework, that creates a climate of intolerance and condemnation with regard to the criminal and aggressive U.S. actions.

Meanwhile we in Nicaragua are ready to defend our independence. Our whole people are struggling to defend the integrity of our territory and to rebuff the aggression of the Somozaist gangs egged on by the Reagan administration. As long as these criminal military actions are carried out against Nicaragua, we will seek out all the necessary means to defend our legitimate rights and our sovereignty and independence.

[Question] Please tell us about the main problems of economic reorganization in the country and the difficulties along this road.

[Answer] We have a considerable number of economic problems in Nicaragua. We took over a country devastated by decades of colonialism, plunder and exploitation. In the final years the plundering of the country by the Somoza clique had been particularly blatant and unpardonable. The republic was bled white. The Somozaists that were expelled from the country took about $800 million abroad. That sum is practically equivalent to 2 years' worth of national exports. We inherited a $1.6 billion debt, accumulated by Somoza not for the country's development needs but in order to increase his own capital. Great devastation had been caused by the war and by the Somozaists' bombing of industrial facilities. Add to that the unfavorable prices prevailing in the world market so far as we are concerned: The prices of what Nicaragua traditionally exports are falling and the prices of what we have to import, by contrast, are rising. All this was a serious obstacle to solving Nicaragua's vital social problems within a short time: carrying out widespread housing construction, developing the health care and people's education systems in the optimum fashion and resolutely guiding the country along the path of economic progress.

Nonetheless, our republic is being reorganized through the efforts of the whole people and under the leadership of the revolutionary Sandinist government. The socialist community states and other friendly countries are showing solidarity with us in the economic, scientific and technical spheres. We are meeting with understanding from many peoples, who can see that our wish to carry out national reconstruction is entirely legitimate.

Despite the unfavorable impact of the economic crisis in the capitalist world and the deterioration of the world market situation so far as we are concerned, we have still achieved substantial successes. This applies above all to the improvement in the people's living standards, and much has been done to develop the people's education and public health. The rate of development of national production that is being maintained may not be the optimum rate, but it is perfectly acceptable.

[Question] Now a question for you as minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform: How are things in this sphere?

[Answer] Agrarian reform is an exceptionally important aspect of our government's activity. It means the transformation of practically the entire social and economic structure of our country, which is predominantly agrarian. A state sector has been created in agriculture on the lands that belonged to Somoza and his henchmen and has become the main axis of the republic's economy. It has become a base for organizing modern agricultural production which to a large extent supplies the population with food products and produces output for export. The working people of the state farms take part in decisionmaking on various questions of their collectives' social and production life. Modern equipment is increasingly employed on these farms. The state sector currently provides around one-fourth of the total agricultural output.

As for the big landowners' properties, we have begun expropriating lands that they are not cultivating. These are handed by the state to landless peasants and peasants possessing little land in two forms. Either to peasant production cooperatives in which the peasants, without dividing the land, cultivate it collectively while the cooperatives are helped with equipment and implements, or else parcels of land are handed to peasants for their individual use. Their size varies depending on the quality of the soil, the natural conditions and whether the land is suitable for stockraising or plant growing.

As a result the area of land in peasant hands has increased considerably. Before the revolution peasants had 3 percent of the total land, but now they have 20 percent indiviudally and, along with the cooperatives, almost 50 percent. The other half belongs to medium and to some large landowners, who produce output in accordance with our annual development plans.

This flexible government policy enables everyone who wants to do so to take part in implementing the plans for the country's reconstruction. Thanks to this we were able to secure an increase of 26 percent in agricultural production in the first year after the victory of the revolution and an increase of a further 12 percent in the second year. In 1982, unfortunately, the pace decreased because of unfavorable weather. Nonetheless, the total agricultural output increased by another 2-3 percent.

The situation with regard to livestock raising was more complex, for the following reason: Before their defeat the Somozaists slaughtered a great number of pedigree cattle in order to sell the meat abroad in their own mercenary interests. Nonetheless, we are gradually restoring it. Earnings from exported meat increased from $20 million in 1981 to $32 million in 1982. As you can see, progress is being made.

NICARAGUA PROTESTS U.S.-AIDED BANDIT RAIDS

LD122346 Moscow TASS in English 2313 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] New York January 12 TASS -- A note of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua Miguel d'Escoto to the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has been distributed here as an official document of the U.N. Security Council.

The document draws attention to a new crime perpetrated by counter-revolutionary gangs operating from Honduran territory thanks to the assistance and support of the U.S. Government. The document mentions a fresh bandit incursion of a group of counter-revolutionaries on January 7 into Nicaraguan territory in the area of Serro-Helado (Department of Jinotega). The bandits killed two Nicaraguans.

The note says that the Government of Nicaragua expresses again its resolute and official protest over these criminal actions committed against the Nicaraguan people and representing a direct result of the aggressive policy of the U.S. Administration with respect to Nicaragua.

THATCHER ENDS 'COLONIAL' VISIT TO FALKLANDS

LD122350 Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] London January 12 TASS -- Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher today ended her trip to the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands. The trip turned into an open demonstration of Britain's colonial claims to that territory. The premier devoted most of her time during her stay on the islands to visiting military facilities, which stressed once again the Tory government's intention to turn the Falklands into a powerful outpost in the South Atlantic. By setting up there a big military base, Britain intends to use it as a center of operations for rapid deployment forces, patterned on those of the United States, intended for armed interference in other regions.

Thatcher's trip became also an obvious attempt by the Tory government to reap political benefits from the recent bloody Anglo-Argentine conflict in the course of which Britain undertook a large-scale operation to capture the islands. The British public and the press believe that Thatcher was thus trying to divert the attention of millions of Britons from really important problems inside the country, and above all unemployment.

BODYUL ATTENDS CUBAN EMBASSY RECEPTION

PM131109 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "To Mark Anniversary"]

[Text] On 5 January Rene Anillo Capote, Cuban ambassador to the Soviet Union, held a reception to mark Liberation Day -- the 24th anniversary of the Cuban revolution.

The reception was attended by M.A. Yasnov and S.N. Imashev, deputy chairmen of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, I.I. Bodyul, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, the leaders of a number of ministries and departments and representatives of party, soviet and public organizations.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS PODGORNYY DEATH 11 JAN

LD131526 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1515 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, 13 Jan (TASS) - IZVESTIYA has published a report of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium in which it is announced that Nikolay Podgornyy, former chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, passed away on 11 January 1983 after a lenghty and grave illness. He was 80 years old.

STRUYEV ADDRESSES TRADE MINISTRY COLLEGIUM

LD111620 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 11 Jan 83

[Text] An extended session of the Collegium of the USSR Ministry of Trade is taking place in Moscow. It is devoted to developing and improving this important industry in 1983. A report was given by the minister, Aleksandr Ivanovich Struyev. The extremely fast rate of production of consumer goods which is envisaged in the 1983 plan is determined by the corresponding development of retail trade turnover in state and cooperative trade, the minister said. This growth will be at the very highest rate. Thus, for example, the supply of foodstuffs to the retail trade network will be increased by more than 6 percent compared with last year.

The minister placed serious demands on enterprises and organizations of local industry, where the volume of production of consumer and domestic durables has fallen considerably in recent years, while the demand for these goods - - especially for the simplest ones -- is poorly satisfied. The question of the way in which the work of industrial enterprises producing consumer goods is to be placed in close mutual relationship with the requirements of trade is still a big problem, too. Concrete measures of economic influence must be used here.

Comrade Struyev paid great attention to the improvement of forms of trade, and in particular the organization of distributing orders at industrial enterprises and construction sites directly, which has received widespread approval among the working people. Further improvement of the provision of services to the population is closely linked with improving the working patterns of trading enterprises. The ministries of trade of union republics are commended to set opening times for shops and public catering enterprises which are most convenient for the working people.

UZBEK COMMITTEE REVIEWS STANDARD OF LIVING

GF131300 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] The Uzbek committee dealing with matters related to raising the standard of living of the Uzbek people has held a meeting in Tashkent. The meeting discussed the priority tasks in this field. Sharaf Rashidov, the first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, addressed the meeting. In his speech he emphasized the work aimed at raising the standard of living of the people in rural regions.

Meanwhile, the state is systematically allocating substantial funds for improving the [word indistinct] and standard of living of the people in rural regions. For example, nearly 2 million people in Uzbekistan's rural regions have moved into new homes in the course of the past 10 years. New schools, [word indistinct], hospitals, youth institutions and [words indistinct] establishments have been set up and (?roads) and canal systems have been put into operation. Numerous millions of square meters of land have been asphalted.

UKRAINE KGB CHIEF ATTENDS VINNITSA OBKOM PLENUM

WA141600 [Editorial Report] Kiev SILSKIY VISTI in Ukrainian on 9 December 1982 publishes on page 2 an 800-word article entitled "In a Self-Critical, Businesslike Manner" by correspondent G. Dobchak reporting on the proceedings of the Vinnitsa Obkom plenum. Among those participating in the plenum was S.N. Mukha, chief of the Ukrainian KGB. According to the article, the plenum examined the oblast's successes "critically, from a position of high exaction." Criticism was focused on sugar beet production and processing, and speakers pointed out "shortcomings, and neglected opportunities and reserves." It was noted that there were still many errors involved in the introduction of the Yampilskyy method of work, that the sugar beet harvest was below normal, and that there were "significant losses" connected with its storage. Some speakers remarked that "attempts at justification based on unfavorable weather conditions were groundless." Mukha said, according to the article, that the November 1982 plenum of the CPSU Central Committee "had completely and fully approved the practical work of the CPSU Politburo in putting into practice the course elaborated at the 26th CPSU Congress in domestic and foreign policies, and in the fulfillment of the tasks of communist construction." Andropov's "brilliant, comprehensive, and particularly important speech," he said, provided "a thorough analysis of the state of affairs in the economy" and pointed the way to fulfilling the plans of the third, "vital" year of the current 5-year plan. Mukha visited several enterprises in the oblast where, according to the article, he "took an interest in the organization of the work and leisure of workers, and offered advice directed at improving the state of affairs."

AZERBAIJAN SUPREME SOVIET PERSONNEL CHANGES

WA141630 [Editorial Report] Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian on 2 and 12 December 1982 carries on page 1 and 3 Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet decrees announcing changes. S.S. Akhundov was relieved of his duties as chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Industry Commission and appointed as the Azerbaijan SSR minister of local industry. Firudin Ali ogly Aliyev was named to replace him as chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Industry Commission.

M.M. Aliyev was relieved of his duties as member of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Court in connection with his transfer to other work.

The other decrees included an announcement on 2 December of a change in the opening of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet session from 3-10 December and confirmations on 12 December of personnel changes made in October.

FARM SUPPLY BODY DISCUSSES DELIVERY PROBLEMS

PM131313 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 26 Dec 82 p 3

[Yu. Grachev report: "On the Countryside's Orders"]

[Text] The year is drawing to a close. Working collectives are summing up results and uncovering unused reserves. How have industrial enterprises -- the supplies of machinery, spares, mineral fertilizers, fuels, lubricants, construction materials and other resources -- coped with meeting agriculture's orders? These deliveries have been analyzed at a routine session of the all-union operational staff for material and technical supply to agriculture. It was opened by L.I. Khitrun, chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture [Goskomselkhoztekhnika].

It was noted that the majority of plants are successfully fulfilling targets and their socialist pledges, which is having a most positive impact on agricultural production. Examples of this are the successful carrying out of the harvest and also the repair of the machine and tractor pool and the wintering of livestock, which have begun in a well-organized way. At the same time the session noted that the year's results have not been satisfactory in all instances. Some enterprises in the Ministries of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building. The Automotive Industry, Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production, Ferrous Metallurgy, the Petroleum Refining and the Petrochemical Industry and other departments were behindhand with the fulfillment of planned and supplementary deliveries to kolkhozes and sovkhozes of tractors, trailors, plows, trucks, fodder harvesting combines, fertilizer spreading equipment, tires, spares, rolled metal and other material and technical facilities.

According to operational statistics, metallurgical plants, for example, undersupplied agriculture by 276,000 tons of rolled metal during the first 11 months. The staff have received numerous local-level complaints about short supplies of output from the Krivoy Rog, Dneprodzerzhinsk, Karaganda, Novyy Lipetsk, Yenakiyevo and certain other plants.

Participants in the session were compelled to remind leaders of the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy that the shortage of rolled metal at kolkhozes, sovkhozes and Goskomselkhoztekhnika enterprises has created serious difficulties in the construction of agricultural installations, the technical servicing of livestock units and the repair of agricultural equipment. The same reminder was also directed toward the leadership of the Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry. Enterprises from that department, including the Barnaul, Krasnovarsk and Volga industrial rubber goods plants, the Saranskiy Rezinotekhnika plant and Moscow's Kauchuk association, owed agriculture a considerable quantity of carcass stuffing boxes [karkasnyy salnik], fan belts and belts, milking pipes [molochnaya trubka], gaskets and other articles.

It was also noted that by the end of the year some plants had not improved their dispatching of spares to the countryside. Thus the Vladimir tractor plant, for example, had failed to supply the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes with 214,800 motor cylinders and 4,200 transmission housings. The Chirchikselmash plant failed to fulfill the plan for the supply of 120 types of parts to agriculture. The Nikolayevselmash, Pyatigorskselmash, Yelgavselmash plants and others are failing to fulfill the plan for the supply of livestock equipment spares.

The session also examined other questions for improving the material and technical supply to agriculture. The participants in the session outlined specific measures aimed at eliminating shortcomings in this important work as quickly as possible. Taking part in the staff's work were executives of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the USSR People's Control Committee, the USSR Gossnab and representatives of ministries and departments.

COSMOS-1428 EARTH SATELLITE LAUNCHED 12 JAN

LD130714 Moscow TASS in English 0706 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- The artificial earth satellite Cosmos-1428 was launched in the Soviet Union on Wednesday.

The sputnik carries scientific equipment designed to continue the space exploration programme.

The sputnik was put into an orbit with the following parameters: the initial period of revolution -- 104.7 minutes, the maximum distance from the surface of the earth -- 1,017 kilometres, the minimum distance from the surface of the earth -- 972 kilometres, the inclination of the orbit -- 82.9 degrees.

Aboard the sputnik there are a radio system for precise measurement of the elements of the orbit, a radio telemetric system to transmit back to earth data on the operation of instruments and scientific equipment.

The equipment installed aboard the sputnik is functioning normally. The coordination-computing centre is processing the incoming information.

EFFECTS OF WEIGHTLESSNESS ON COSMONAUTS APPRAISED

LD140028 Moscow TASS in English 1748 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- TASS correspondent Rena Kuznetsova reports: It is most likely that no special gravitational plants will be needed at the interplanetary spaceships of the future headed for distant planets. This supposition was voiced by Soviet experts, who based it on the results of the 211-day space mission of Anatoliy Berezovoy and Valentin Lebedev aboard the orbiting station Salyut-7.

The cosmonauts, who set the space endurance record, have demonstrated that a well-trained person, prepared for life and work in the absence of gravity, emerges victorious in the showdown with weightlessness. A complex of measures, devised by medical workers, enables cosmonauts to stand weightlessness well and to overcome its effects comparatively fast in the post-flight period.

Although no flights to other planets are planned in the foreseeable future, such conclusions are of principled importance to those who are thinking already today about what interplanetary spaceships should be like.

"The unpleasant sensations caused by weightlessness during the first few days pass quickly," says Anatoliy Berezovoy, commander of the space crew who spent 211 days aloft. "When, during the soft landing, I was literally 'pressed' into my armchair by terrestrial gravity. I thought with sadness about weightlessness as about something pleasant, which I have become used to, left behind".

Adds Valentin Lebedev: "We both endured weightlessness well. And weightlessness helped us greatly. It was our friend, for example, when we were unloading the Progress ferries or assembling equipment. We could not have handled such loads on earth with similar ease."

Experts believe that in the future, when huge modules, space electric power stations and factories will be assembled right in orbit, weightlessness may become man's good helper.